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HALIBURTON COUNTY

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\$1 including GST

Healthcare facilities finally a reality

"It may have taken you a long time but this is the model of healthcare we're moving towards,"
Health Minister Elizabeth Witmer says at Friday's official opening ceremonies

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

With the sun shining as brightly as people's spirits, the Haliburton County community gathered to celebrate an achievement that many people had despaired would ever take place.

The official opening of the new health-care facilities in Minden and Haliburton

on Friday was more than a simple ceremony. It was an emotional culmination of at least 14 years of hope, anger, frustration, renewed hope and dogged determination.

"We've looked forward to this for almost a generation - a lifetime for some," said MPP Chris Hodgson, the man who was given a lot of the credit for making the day possible, gesturing to his children who also attended the cere-

monies.

"It's just a great day for the Highlands, isn't it?"

"Today isn't about a building; it marks the end of a long journey," said David Coulson, chairman of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board.

But that journey continues on into the future because the new facilities mark "another step in the creation of a vision for healthcare," Coulson said. Not only

do we have improved and expanded facilities, but the HHHS, which manages the facilities, is also responsible for a wide range of services from mental health counselling to diabetes education to supportive housing.

Also of importance is the fact that the HHHS board is comprised of Highlanders, people who care deeply about providing the services people need and where they need them - close to home.

"These two sites can provide the continuum of care that's needed," said Elizabeth Witmer, whose first official duty as the Minister of Health was to turn the sod at the facilities three years ago, and who attended the Minden opening before fulfilling another commitment outside the county. "This, I will tell you, is one of the best integrated health systems we have anywhere."

"It may have taken you a long time but this is the model of healthcare we're moving towards... Today as we celebrate you are seeing the future of health services in this province... You're leading the way and we're very pleased you'll have access to the services you need."

"It's a real pleasure to share in this great day and congratulate everyone on a job very well done," she said

Liberal MP John O'Reilly remembers a telephone conversation with Hodgson shortly after the young Conservative was elected in a by-election. O'Reilly happened to mention he was at the office working on proposals for the federal/provincial infrastructure program. Hodgson asked if they could get together to talk about some of Hodgson's ideas and half an hour later, Hodgson was in O'Reilly's office. "What about healthcare services for Haliburton County," Hodgson asked. Leaving their political hats at the door, the two men began the process that would see almost two-thirds of the projects funded with infrastructure money.

"I can't believe it's finally come to the Highlands," O'Reilly said, adding that he hopes he and Hodgson will be working on other infrastructure programs together. "I thank you for caring about healthcare in the Haliburton Highlands."

"This is an example of what happens when our community pulls together and the federal and provincial governments work together," Hodgson agreed.

See Distance page 6

See Thank page 23



Haliburton Highlands Health Services board chairman David Coulson, county warden Jeanne Anthon, HHHS Foundation chairman Gord Monk, Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey, MPP Chris Hodgson, Foundation manager Dale Walker, capital

campaign chairman Don Popple, MP John O'Reilly, architect Len Gosse, HHHS executive director Foster Loucks and Bruce Steinberg, site supervisor for Bradscot Construction take part in the ribbon cutting ceremonies at Haliburton Hospital Friday.

Lack of trustee candidate getting worrisome

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

The County of Haliburton is desperately in need of candidates to run for the position of trustee with the Trillium Lakelands District School Board in this November's municipal elections.

As of this time, nobody has thrown their hat in the ring to be the county's only representative on the board.

The position will soon be vacated by

long-serving trustee Cheryl Murdoch, who is retiring and attempting to enter municipal politics by running for reeve of the amalgamated municipality of Snowdon, Lutterworth, Anson, Hindon and Minden.

"I've really tried my best here knowing six months ago that I was going to change horses," says Murdoch of her endeavors to find a suitable candidate for the position. "I've talked to a lot of people who I've known previously that have

been active on school councils. But the biggest thing is the driving, that's all I'm hearing."

Because of the large area the board covers, the position requires a significant amount of driving across Haliburton, Victoria, and Muskoka. While the meeting locations do rotate and are held in the Highlands every third month, Murdoch believes all the travel to bi-

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HHSS joins national mourning for Trudeau

FLAGS AT THE HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS Secondary School flew at half mast on Friday in silent and evocative tribute to Pierre Elliott Trudeau who died on Thursday. Principal Gary Brohman spent three minutes on the morning announcements talking about the late prime minister, who helped define a generation, and some would say, modern Canada. "He had his faults, but we all do," says Brohman. "He was a great visionary; he was a great Canadian." Although most students today were born after Trudeau retired from active politics in 1984, the students are very much aware of him, Brohman says. In fact, the Grade 9 compulsory civics course is in the midst of its section on Trudeau.

If you missed the Haliburton County Studio Tour last weekend, there's still time to enjoy the fall colours while visiting studios in the Kinmount area. There are 11 stops along the way, including the village blacksmith beside the railway station and the model train exhibit inside the station. For details of the event on October 8 and 9 or a map, call 705-488-1414 or drop by the Kinmount Artisans' Marketplace on Cty. Rd. 45 just west of the main street (as if going towards Norland.) Meanwhile, most of the artisans who took part in the Haliburton County Studio Tour as well as numerous craftspeople keep their doors open for the Thanksgiving weekend. Check out the Studio Tour map or The Echo's Fall Tour supplement, which is full of ideas of places to visit and enjoy the garden's harvest this weekend.

The last service in a consecrated St. Stephen's church on Buckslide Road will be Thanksgiving Sunday, October 8 at 4 p.m., led by the Rev. Merv Overall. After that, the church will be sold by the Anglican diocese to the municipality of Stanhope for \$1. Stanhope will retain ownership of the cemetery and the

here, there & everywhere
 news and events worth noting

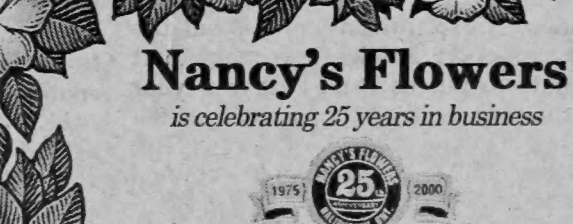
church building will be donated to The Friends of St. Stephen's Heritage Church (Boskung) Inc., which has already stabilized the foundation of the beautiful stone church which has sat empty for years. As well, the original organ, which was given to Hyland Crest, has been donated back to the church by the Residents Council. There's no heat or hydro at the church, so dress accordingly.

Here's an election update: Minden businessman Ron Gambell, who is a former reeve and warden, has announced his intention to run as councillor-at-large in Snowdon, Lutterworth, Anson, Hindon and Minden. Incumbent Ward 5 Councillor Dan Kay will run for office again in the Dysart et al elections.

County council recently passed a resolution declaring October 5 as World Teachers' Day in the county.

On October 5 at 7 p.m., Dawna Speers will tell the tragic story of her daughter Monica, who at the age of 18 was killed by her former boyfriend. A Love that Kills is at the Northern Lights Pavilion, and it will also be shown to high school students during assemblies on Oct. 4 and 5. The events, which kick off Week Without Violence, are sponsored by the Victoria County Crisis Assistance and Referral Service, Community Against Violence and Abuse, the Haliburton Highlands OPP, YWCA Women's Safety Network, Family Services of Haliburton County and HHSS. There is no admission charge but donations to CAVEAT - Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating Its Termination - would be appreciated.

On Fri., Oct. 6 starting 7 p.m., the youth of Lakeside Baptist Church will go door to door within the village of Haliburton collecting non-perishable food items for the 4Cs. Anything people can contribute is welcome.



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THE WATCHER AA	8:15
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Fearrey runs for Dysart reeve again

By asking people to make appointments rather than drop in at his workplace, he feels better able to balance demands on his time

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey has decided to run for the top municipal position for the last time.

"We're going to stay in one more time," says Fearrey of his decision. "It's Custer's last stand."

Fearrey, who has been involved in local politics since the early '70s, says the decision was a difficult one and came down to two factors.

"A week ago I pretty well made my mind up not to, but I thought about some of the projects that are underway and I feel that maybe with my experience we can help those along. And of course I've had a lot of encouragement from people in the community to stand one last time."

The three-time county warden says completing the work with Sir Sandford Fleming College is just one of the projects he wants to see through.

"The college is important to us and we have to do something to come up with some better solution on the landfill sites. And of course I'm concerned about some of the smooth transition of ambulance services to the county. Those kinds of things we're part way through but they are not finalised. I think it's important that they be done."

Fearrey says that he is grateful that some members of the public have enough faith in him to give him a gentle push of encouragement as well.

"It's gratifying after all these years quite frankly. I'm sure there's the other side of the coin that aren't saying anything that would be happy to see a

change."

Fearrey says it took him a long time to decide as he was carefully weighing his priorities.

"I've been doing this a long time and I do have a day job and I'm finding that the time that's required for both is sometimes quite onerous. I had to get it in my head whether or not I would be able to do both. But I am planning next year to retire from business and I think I'll have more time. And I'm going to go back, if people accept that, to seeing people on Monday nights by appointment if they want to see me and stop the constant flow of interruptions at the business."

Fearrey says that while most people are very considerate while he is at work, others expect him to drop everything to help them.

"I don't mind people that I arrange it with. It's just people that get a bee in their bonnet about some issue and just pop in and want to talk about it and I just don't always have the time, nor is it fair to expect me to. So it will be by appointment to talk to me and I intend to make much more use of ward councillors. People should be going to the councillor in their area if they've got a problem and not coming to me until they've tried that avenue."

Fearrey says he is also giving the public fair warning that this will be his last foray into the political arena.

"If I do this it's the last time. Once these projects are done I may not even finish the term and get on with my life. They're aware that something is going to give here and hopefully some younger people will get interested in the community very seriously."



Field of dreams: A new soccer field is taking shape on the grounds of the Outdoors Association Fish Hatchery on County Road 1 near Haliburton. The municipality of Dysart has paid for sod to make the field, and on Saturday, a handful of volunteers got started on the huge job of putting the grass down. Above, Tom Diblee, Norm Bottum and Paul Close, helped by Adam Clark, Shane Diblee and Ian Bottum, roll out sod on ground levelled and prepared by Larry Hewitt.

Court days in Minden are cut in half

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

A province-wide shortage of Justices of the Peace has resulted in a dramatic reduction of the number of court days in Minden.

In its lease renewal negotiations, the Ontario Realty Corporation has booked the court facilities for criminal court offences for 54 days a year instead of the traditional 99, Lutterworth Reeve Jim McMahon told county council on Wednesday.

As well, the court days for provincial offences have been reduced from two a month to one a month.

There are no provincial offences court dates scheduled for the month of October because of JP training seminars.

Neither McMahon nor his fellow politicians were happy with the news.

"It is unacceptable," said McMahon, who recently met with the Senior Justice of the Peace for Central East Region, Sandra Nettleton, and Haliburton Highlands OPP Sgt. Bob Walli to lobby for more local court days.

"We tried and presented our case but (Nettleton) just said 'I don't have the resources,'" McMahon said in his report on emergency services.

In the past few months, five JPs in this region have retired or quit and she's only been able to hire one replacement.

Even in Whitby the number of provincial offences court days has been reduced from three to two a week because there aren't enough JPs. JPs do such things as hear provincial offences (traffic, liquor licence, etc.) cases, sit at bail hearings, do intake work and conduct remand hearings.

Stanhope Reeve Eleanor Harrison said her municipality's by-law enforcement officer had to travel to the court in Lindsay to get a JP's signature, taking him out of the office for most of the day.

The reduction in court dates doesn't please the OPP either.

In an interview after county council, Sgt. Walli said it's important to keep the court service in the county for two reasons.

If cases have to be heard in Lindsay, that means more travelling and time away from work for the accused, witnesses and police. The more time officers

have to spend travelling to court will also increase officers' overtime pay. Officers' salaries are paid for by county taxpayers.

"We will attend court," he says. "It's not a case that we have an option. But if the court date is not on an officer's scheduled day shift, the officers are there on overtime."

There is a JP who lives in the county. If the police need a JP after hours and that JP is the one on call, then the police can use that JP's services. If not, the police must go out of the county to such places as Lindsay or Campbellford for a JP.

Because this is a new situation, Walli isn't sure of its impact on the detachment. "We won't know what the actual effects are for another six to eight months."

As to the reduction of provincial offences court days, Walli said they must wait and see if they are able to get all the cases heard in the one day a month before they know the impact of that change.

County council will write a letter to MPP Chris Hodgson and the Attorney General to protest the level of service and ask that something be done to rectify the shortage of JPs.

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Moore Lake controversy continues

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

As anyone who was in attendance knows, what was supposed to be an all-candidates debate on the issues facing the new municipality of Snowden, Lutterworth, Anson, Hindon, Minden, turned into something quite different. While members of the audience may have found last Saturday's meeting entertaining, serious allegations of abuse of power did not leave some politicians in a good mood.

"Anybody in politics is fair game. It goes with the territory. But when you've always tried to be above board and you've tried to be honest it sort of hits you a bit," says Lutterworth Councillor Bill Valentine, one of the targets of the allegations.

"I've never done anything inappropriate. I can look anybody right in the eye and say I've been totally honest. That's where it hurts."

Valentine says he was very upset when the evening began with accusations that he abused taxpayers' money. Charles Gerdtschkes accused Valentine of spending \$1,400 while attending the Good Roads/Rural Ontario Municipalities Association convention. The true cost to the township was \$973.

"I think he added my expenses, Kevin's (Hill) expenses, the township's membership in AMO, he added everything together to get the figure. Once he throws the figure out what can you do about it? He just fabricates everything."

Valentine and fellow Lutterworth Councillor Mike Wahlroth say that the

Gerdtschkes are upset with the township for not taking over the South Beaver Lake Road which provides access to their cottage. Going back to the 1960s, the original real estate developer said the road would be assumed by the township. Because the township has continually refused to take over the road Wahlroth says the issue has become personal.

"I'm on record saying, 'why should we take over your road when we won't take over mine or anyone else's?' He's got this idea that I want mine taken over which is totally false."

Wahlroth says it would be impossible for the township to take over the South Beaver Lake Road due to the prohibitive costs.

"I think the reason he's picked on me personally is because I'm the longest surviving member of council," says Valentine, who adds that no other residents on the road are asking for it to be taken over. "I haven't opposed the road. I've said if it's brought up to standard that's fine. It's a vendetta is what it is."

The Echo was unable to reach the Gerdtschkes for comment.

Several questions were also brought forward at the all-candidates meeting regarding land severances for Valentine and Wahlroth, both residents on Moore Lake.

The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) opposes the severances arguing Moore Lake is a highly sensitive trout lake. Because the severances were approved by Lutterworth Township there are accusations of improper behavior on the part of the councillors.

Both Valentine and Wahlroth deny they have done anything wrong and say they fol-

lowed proper procedures in filing their applications for severance.

Both councillors made their application to the Land Division Committee for the County of Haliburton which then circulated the application to the various agencies (health unit, adjacent property owners, Lutterworth Township) for comment. Lutterworth Township investigated the severances to ensure they complied with zoning bylaws and approved them. Both Valentine and Wahlroth declared pecuniary interest on their own severances and thus were not able to vote.

Land Division then received the comments back from the various agencies and Wahlroth's three severances were passed while Valentine's single severance has yet to be examined.

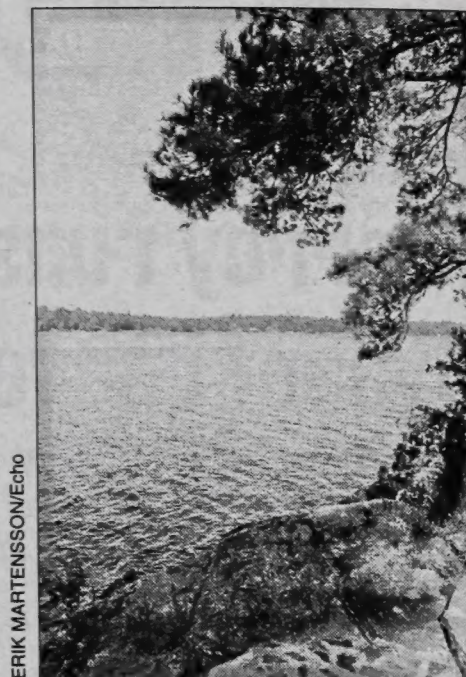
While the Land Division does not circulate information regarding applications for severances to the MOE, they did receive letters noting the MOE's opposition to both Wahlroth and Valentine's severances.

Wahlroth says that his three proposed severances are not a danger to the lake. He points out they are not intended to create a large development for financial gain, but are simply to provide lots for his three children.

"Through the '80s I had every opportunity to develop it. I could have put 15 lots on this thing easily. I had no desire to do that. If I had needed money I would have sold the lot. I'm not interested in development. I believe what's happening down there is my kids' birthright."

Wahlroth has personally owned the property with over 4,000 feet of waterfront since 1982. He says it has been in his family for over 70 years.

"My commitment to the area should be fairly obvious. If this lake goes dead I obviously have more to lose than anybody. It's certainly not in my interest to screw up this lake. I've got a huge investment here. Do I want a dead lake in front



ERIK MARTENSSON/ECHO

of me? I don't think so."

Wahlroth strongly disagrees with the MOE's letter to the Land Division recommending the severances be denied.

"The Ministry has not said no more development. They haven't shut it down. If they shut it down nobody would have passed it. They've said it's a 'Policy 2' lake, which is lake trout, and it's sensitive. We wouldn't have a 'Sensitive' Lake if the Ministry of Environment was doing their job. It's their job to set septic standards and enforce them. It's not been done and there's no sign of it being done."

MOE Surface Water Scientist Victor Castro is the author of the letters to the Land Division recommending against the severances. He says because Moore Lake is designated as a Policy 2 lake there should be no further development.

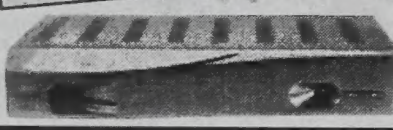
"Basically because it is a Policy 2 lake it puts it into a highly sensitive designation. Policy 2 is water quality which presently does not meet the provincial water quality objectives. And for those types of water bodies

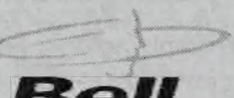
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MOE says no development should be allowed

from page 4

we will not allow them to be degraded further and all practical measures will be taken to upgrade the water quality to the objectives."

Wahlroth notes that the health unit's report on the severance says that there is ample room for proper septic to be installed and he says there is little chance the developments will pollute the lake.

"Each of the lots is over an acre and a quarter, and there is plenty of room for septic. The new septic systems are not causing the trouble. It's the old ones."

Valentine's proposed severance across Highway 35 also produced the same letter of objection from the MOE.

"Why they have lumped mine with Mike's I have no idea because they are two different scenarios altogether," says Valentine. "As far as having to do with trout beds or water pollution or anything it's totally insane. Can you see any sense in denying a severance that is 1,000 metres from the lake?"

Valentine says pollution "could never, ever, ever, reach the lake," from the property which he hopes to sell for a residence.

Moore Lake resident Hillary Brown is opposed to the severances for environmental reasons.

"This lake is ruled at capacity by the MOE and we don't want more septic, more boats, more traffic, and it's a trout lake. It just doesn't seem right that two councillors who sit on council can sever their own lands contravening the MOE ruling, especially with councillor Mike Wahlroth being chairman of the Land Division. Even though they all declared pecuniary interest I think they kind of voted for each other. It just doesn't sit right with a lot of us down here. I'm definitely not anti-development. I believe in development and building Haliburton, but I am against lake front property severances that have been ruled against by the MOE."

Castro says the severances should not have been approved by the Land Division.

"If there was an up to date official plan in place (Lutterworth is in the process of establishing one) with current policies that spoke to lakes at capacity then it should have never got past the Land Division committee. Now, what reasons they had for passing it in the absence of any policies that speak to that, I don't know what their reasons were. They obviously did have my letter and were aware of the lake Policy 2 designation. But they decided to make that decision anyway."

Land Division Secretary Lois Warburton notes that Moore Lake is not one of the lakes where further development is prohibited.

"Some lakes are already cut off," she says. "This isn't one of them."

Land Division Vice Chair and Dysart et al Deputy Reeve Bill Davis says nothing untowardly should get by the committee.

"Anything is possible. I would hope that doesn't happen, but it's not likely at the Land Division level."

Davis says the committee is very careful with environmental issues and as he understood it, the letter from the MOE did not forbid more development. He says the committee added a 30-metre setback to the severance which Wahlroth gladly accepted.

Wahlroth also denies he was trying to discretely add the severances to the council agenda on short notice.

When his son phoned him in mid-July saying that he was interested in building a cottage, Wahlroth says he went and filed consent papers for lots for his three children.

"I had to wait until the 24th until Lois

"I don't mind being overruled. If the MOE really believe that no one should build on the lake they will appeal to the OMB."

Wahlroth says he will gladly fight if the MOE appeals.

Valentine says he will give up if Land Division does not pass his severance.

Yet more controversy erupted at the all-candidates meeting as Lutterworth resident Bill Redgrave questioned the financial terms of Valentine's previous subdivision deal at Moore Falls. He says that while Valentine's rezoning was done through a private corporation, it shouldn't alter how he honours the

Wahlroth and Valentine would bring up the dealings between his business and the township.

"Hunter Creek Inn in the past 10 years has contributed over \$3-million to the local and regional economy. It employs ten people. It has been in operation for 23 years. And we have tried everything in our power to try to do everything legitimately by the book in which the only thorn in the side over the years has been Mr. Valentine. And they've had 23 years to shut us down if we're not legal. Their own planner has said to recognise Hunter Creek for what it is, a legal non-conforming use. That was to be passed in 1998. It never happened."

Valentine says the property cannot be rezoned commercial since it is on a private road and the township's by-laws say a commercial property must be serviced by either a year-round highway, a county road or township road. Hunter Creek Inn is on a private road. Valentine believes questions at the meeting about his subdivision were because of the denials.

Redgrave denies that he has a vendetta and says the councillors are avoiding the issues.

"The issues addressed at the all-candidates meeting are the concern of many Lutterworth taxpayers. Valentine and Wahlroth are trying now to make it look as if we used the all candidates meeting as a tool or vendetta against them because they turned down our rezoning. When their back is to the wall, they try to accommodate their transgressions by putting the blame on another issue."

Asked if the controversy has hurt his political reputation, Wahlroth believes that it has.

"And I'm angry about that. I got into this because I thought I could make a difference. Only history will tell you whether I have or not. You make more enemies than friends in this business because you can't please all the people. The people that you please think that's the way it's supposed to be, so they don't even think that you've pleased them, so you haven't made any friends. To have my integrity impugned by a couple of guys who have a very, very serious axe to grind I find extremely offensive."

Valentine says he is unsure if the controversy will hurt his election chances.

"If I lose I'll put my signs away carefully and three years from now they'll come out again."

Brown is disappointed that personal issues are smearing what she believes is the real issue, the environment.

"This is very unfortunate because this has kind of put a taint on everything. I'm up there talking about these land severances because I believe in preserving our beautiful lake and the environment. And all this is kind of being clouded by some people that have more of a personal stake in some issue. Consequently this environmental issue about our lake is being swept under the carpet."

*You make more enemies than friends in this business
because you can't please all the people*

Mike Wahlroth

(Warburton) got back from vacation to put the papers in. I did not want to step out of line and do something ahead of her accepting the papers and saying to Mary Jane (Irwin), 'go ahead and put this on the (Lutterworth) agenda'. I didn't figure that was my place. What I did do on the 24th was I took the papers to Lois and said, 'look, I'll take a copy of this down to Mary Jane,' and I asked Mary Jane to put it on the agenda for Thursday night. I guess that's where the trouble started. I didn't think I was doing anything wrong. I mean I could have waited until Thursday night and said, 'hey guys, new business, I want to sever three lots'. I was being as open and up front as I could have been in the timeframe I had."

Wahlroth says he was trying to move the severance forward as quickly as possible so his son could begin construction next year.

"If he's going to get any building done I'm going to have to have a road put in this fall. I'm prepared to do anything for my kid, I think it's wonderful that he wants to be here."

Castro says the MOE is taking steps to appeal Land Division's decision on Wahlroth's severance.

"The process is now we have to make a request to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and we've done so. We've passed on the request along with all the technical information and the reasons for requesting the appeal to Municipal Affairs so it's really up to them to assess that and whether there is any provincial interest to appeal. So we're kind of awaiting that, but given the history of lake trout lakes and severance applications we've done this on numerous occasions and our experience in the past is that they have been appealed."

Davis says that if Land Division's decision on Wahlroth's severance is turned over so be it.

agreement.

"That doesn't excuse him from paying the taxpayers back, plus interest for 20 years... I don't know anybody else who would get away with it."

The agreement on the subdivision calls for Valentine to convey five per cent of the lands to Lutterworth or a cash grant in lieu thereof.

Valentine says "the five per cent is payable once three quarters of the lots are sold. And him yelling that I owe 20 years of interest is just a total lie."

Valentine has sold eight out of the 12 lots in the subdivision and says he double-checked with his lawyer to make sure the agreement is in good standing. He believes that Redgrave has an axe to grind because the township has turned down his rezoning request for his commercial establishment, the Hunter Creek Inn.

Redgrave replies that is simply not the case. He admits that he has had a running feud with Valentine, but says that it was not personal.

"It is all the taxpayers' business and has nothing to do with my rezoning or Hunter Creek Inn. Absolutely nothing," he adds.

Wahlroth notes that it is common knowledge that Redgrave is running a commercial business in a non-commercial zone.

"This is a shoreline residential area, it's not commercial but everything he's done he has taken out appropriate building permits for residential shoreline appropriate for that (residential) zone," says Wahlroth. "His neighbours started to complain much more vociferously and I said, 'listen, we have to do something about it'. And we decided we were going to start legal proceedings. There was a recorded vote and I'm on record to take him to court to shut him down. That's where his axe to grind is on this whole thing."

Redgrave says he is disappointed that



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Distance to meetings deters candidates

from page 1

monthly regular (except for July and most of August which are free of meetings) and occasional committee meetings has potential candidates thinking twice about the position.

"The biggest thing when I'm talking to people about it is that they don't want to be doing the kind of driving that we're into right now. Particularly in inclement weather and late at night."

The lack of a candidate has Director of Education Evelyn Brown concerned.

"Of course I'm worried," she says "I mean it's really important that the people in the county have a voice at the table."

She does, however, understand the difficulty of coping with the long road trips to meetings.

"There is a fair amount of driving involved because we do move the meetings around. Although every third month it's up at the Archie Stouffer School in order for the local trustee to be closer to home."

The trustee position pays an annual stipend of \$5,000 and mileage to and from regular and committee meetings. Brown says the board will also pay for overnight accommodations if conditions do not allow for safe travel. As well, teleconferencing is an option if the weather is particularly bad, but Murdoch says that is not always effective.

"You can do that for one agenda item or two, but you can't sit on the phone for four or five hours for a full meeting and get a full flavour of what's going on. It's too much, it's too long."

In addition to driving, Brown believes potential candidates may

also have other concerns, one of them being the feeling that board members have their hands tied by the Harris government. Asked if the increasing role government is playing in educational decision-making may dissuade possible nominees, Brown agrees the position may not seem as attractive as it once was.

"I would say that would be true,

"Of course I'm worried. It's really important that the people in the county have a voice at the table"

EVELYN BROWN

particularly when there was a loss of the ability to raise the taxes for the school board. Once that was removed it was a really significant change in the role since the money now flows from Queen's Park directly to boards."

However, she says the position is still vital to the future of education in the county.

"There still are important decisions to be made. Although they may not be able to make decisions on about how much money, they do have opportunity to decide on the manner in which it's spent and the development of board policies. And there is still a really important role for the trustees to keep communities informed of the ongoing reforms in education. From that respect it's not totally a rubber stamp. There is some excellent discussion and

debate and policy setting that goes on at the board table."

Brown says people should not be intimidated by the position either.

"There's opportunity for professional development in the role, so that when you come in there'll be lots of help."

Brown is encouraging people considering the position to talk to her about any concerns they may have.

"If anyone is interested in talking to me about the position or talking to Cheryl Murdoch or the chair of the board Judy Saunders. I know that they would be more than pleased to talk about the importance of the role."

Murdoch says her long term with the board has been a rewarding experience and notes that a trustee plays an indispensable role in the community.

"I've been at this business for 30 years, teaching for eight and a trustee for 22. There isn't anything much more important than kids and education so I guess you've got to find somebody that thinks that's really, really important. Hopefully we can find another brave soul that will meet the challenge."

If no one decides to run in the election, Brown says the board is not at a complete loss.

"There are a couple of options in the Education Act. The board could still call for people to apply and the board would make the decision on who would fill the seat. That's how it stands right now. But I would not want to rule out other options being opened up because I do understand from my colleagues across the province that there are a number of vacant seats for the same reason that we have here in Haliburton County."

School board welcomes community volunteers for co-curricular events

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

With teachers spending more of their time in the classroom, the Trillium Lakelands District School Board agrees that volunteers may be one answer to maintaining an acceptable level of co-curricular activities in the county's schools.

Currently, teachers are having a hard time committing to co-curricular activities which often take place after school due to the longer classroom hours mandated by the provincial government. Suggestions have been made that a group of well-intentioned volunteers may help relieve some of the burden.

Director of Education Evelyn Brown says she would welcome more volunteers into the system to help teachers with the co-curricular activities and encourages them to come forward at any time.

"We have had parent volunteers help and support activities in the past. It just that we seem to be in a whole new world of adjusting to the new workload and the new curriculum that the teachers have had to this fall. We do have a new policy on volunteers in the school which the board just adopted last year and so that would be the guideline that we would have our principals follow."

Brown says the first step for anyone wanting to volunteer is to approach the principal of the school "because each community has different things going depending on the size of the community or how community things are organised."

The principal would then approve all potential volunteers before they are provided with the proper training.

Brown says the volunteers should be committed and knowledgeable in the area in which they would donate their time.

"We want people who are qualified. So there'd certainly be a criteria so that things are following what that kind of a sport dictates in terms of skill and knowledge in that area."

Once the volunteers are in place the principal would then follow up to ensure they have a positive impact and also guarantee that they are appropriately supervised.

As part of the school board's policy, volunteers must complete a questionnaire. All volunteers are expected to:

- provide two references as to suitability to work with children in an educational setting (credibility)
- provide a current criminal reference check (safety)



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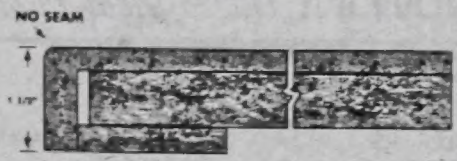
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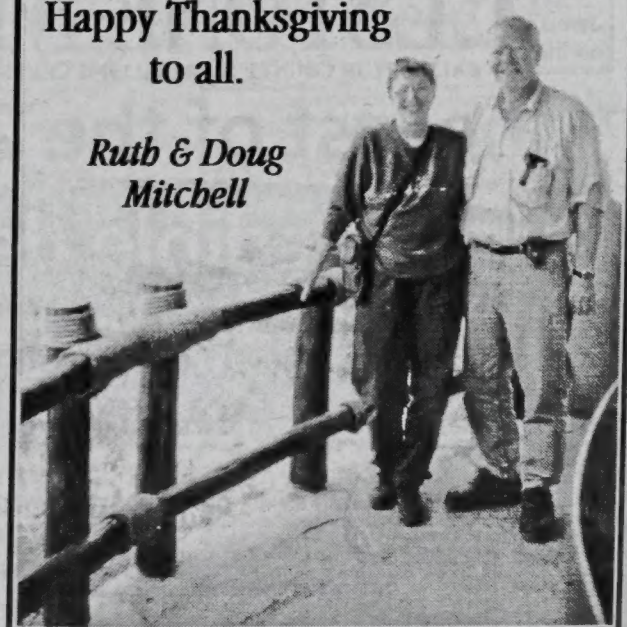
At this beautiful time of year, we want to share our feelings of thankfulness.

We are so aware of the blessings of living in democratic Canada, of the joy of working with caring and thoughtful individuals, of the beauty in nature that surrounds us, and mostly, we acknowledge the huge contribution to our lives that comes from friends and family.

We wish to each of you, a season of reflection upon the riches we all abundantly enjoy.

**Happy Thanksgiving
to all.**

**Ruth & Doug
Mitchell**



Sinclair Nesbitt's contributions honoured by re-naming of Minden arena

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at Thursday night's meeting of Anson, Hindon and Minden council.

The Minden arena will be re-named the Sinclair Nesbitt Memorial Arena in honour of the late politician who loved hockey and supported efforts to ensure young people could share his passion for the sport.

"I think it's an excellent idea," said Councillor Daryl Moore.

Deputy-reeve Jerry Rome noted that many towns named their arenas after famous sons who had done well in the wider world so it was appropriate to name the arena after someone who made his mark in the community, Rome said.

Nesbitt spent a lifetime in politics both in Minden and Stanhope, and while he wasn't on Minden council when the arena was rebuilt, he worked hard to see the facility modernized. Throughout his life, he was an ardent fan of minor hockey, going to games whether his sons and grandsons were playing or not, sponsoring teams and making sure all young players had an opportunity to pursue the sport.

In a letter, Nesbitt's daughter Wendy Bartlett says "we feel it would be an honour for Dad and his family to have the arena bear his name due to all his support over the years."

The upstairs of the arena complex will still be called the Minden Community Centre.

Public washrooms

If you're really in a hurry to use the public washrooms at the Minden firehall and you don't have time to go across the block to the municipal office to get the key, fear not.

Council has agreed to leave the washrooms open during the day.

The public washrooms are open during the day in the summer, but after Labour Day, they are locked. This policy was in response to serious vandalism that occurred when the washrooms were left open over night a few years ago. There's also a problem with the existing doors not closing properly. If left open during the winter, the washrooms could freeze. Council will buy new door closers to ensure the doors shut properly.

No parking

Council will talk to the county about a request to introduce 15-minute parking in front of the county office on Newcastle Street in Minden.

The request was made by a man who had been ticketed when he parked briefly in front of the office while picking up paperwork for the tree-cutting by-law. He felt people doing business with the county shouldn't be penalized in this way.

The no parking zone has been in place for many years, councillors said, but no one knew if there was a particular reason why no parking was allowed in front of the county building. Anthon believed it might be a fire zone to ensure emergency vehicles have free access.

The problem with a 15-minute parking zone will be enforcing it, Anthon said.

Council wouldn't make any assurances that the no parking zone would be changed.

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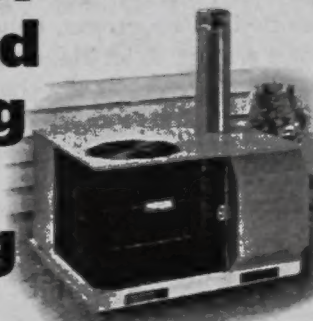
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Past, present, future

In a closet somewhere in the darkest recesses of The Echo office is a box labelled "Hospital - history." In it are dozens of files and an almost equal number of weighty reports, all background material to the happy event on Friday when the people of Haliburton County gathered to celebrate "Hospitals - one long chapter closed." Oh what a story those files - which had overwhelmed a conventional filing cabinet - can tell.

On Friday, most of the focus was on Haliburton Highlands Health Services, which came into being after the Tory government gave the go-ahead for the largest capital expansion program this county has ever seen in 1996. But what about all the boards and committees that came before the HHHS? What about the people who compiled the statistics which led to the previous promise of 18 new beds in 1986? Who can forget the strategic planning committee, the development committee? Wasn't there another one in there somewhere? Oh, and then there was the bitter and often acrimonious "Haliburton versus Minden" saga. If you think Canadian hockey has become too

echo

editorial

martha perkins

rough, then be grateful you didn't have to sit through those meetings.

Perhaps this is why God gives us such difficulties in remembering things as we get older. If we remembered all the meetings, all the arguments, all the reports that led up to Friday's celebration, then we would have long given up hope such a day could have ever occurred.

Leave it to an editorial writer to recall this troublesome past. All of the guest speakers at the official opening ceremonies were far too gracious to introduce all the ghosts which were hovering in the background. They focused on the positive and politely avoided any reference to a troubled past (except for Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey, who got in a wonderful dig against Elinor Caplan, now a federal Liberal cabinet minister, but 10 years ago the Ontario health minister who put the deep freeze on the 18-bed expansion). Again, their graciousness is an indication that they too are willing to have a selective memory as we work together to make this the best place to live and holiday.

As one of the speakers acknowledged, it is a risky business to start to thank individuals for fear of leaving someone important out. A few years ago, when The Echo had an editorial praising people such as Barb Dawson, who as well as sitting on many of those aforementioned committees, quickly raised the county's \$400,000 commitment for the 18 beds, she phoned and said that the one person who frequently gets omitted is the late Hadden Gillespie. His diplomatic and managerial skills were essential to keeping one of those former committees together. And without all those people who volunteered their time during some of the most unrewarding and controversial times, we would have never got to the point where the HHHS was formed to oversee the expansion of our healthcare facilities. Every step along the way was important.

Mr. Gillespie certainly had some fine successors, and we'll probably make the mistake of forgetting some of them again. In the most recent past there was the late Stuart Baker, Paul Heffer and Hugh Nichol. It truly was a blessing that each of them possessed the skills that were most needed at the time. Hugh Nichol's strengths, particularly, were called upon at a crucial time in this story's history, when his "straight-to-the-facts" demeanour with Queen's Park officials was balanced with a deep caring for the project and its success.

The man tying all this together was Chris Hodgson. He got the projects through all the hoops at Queen's Park not because of political patronage, but because he too was so committed to the project, believing deeply in its worthiness and not willing to let Haliburton settle for second best. And at one time, wasn't he the chairman of one of those committees? (There's the memory playing tricks again; at one point, it would have been impossible to believe each meeting wasn't burned into the brain's archives.)

To all those people, mentioned and unsung, a heartfelt thank you.



Redstone river

by Len Pizzey/Echo

Gold not the currency of success

The Olympics on TV delights us with its spectacle, amazes us with its documentation of human achievement, and bombards us with its slogans. Those simplistic, pithy, seemingly obvious truisms tend, however, to fracture our sense of ourselves and muddy the plotting of our goals.

Equality for all - how infectious the idea. Just looking at the panorama of athletes from every corner of our planet lends credence to that dream. But look closer. Often commentators spoke of a particular athlete's mental makeup - unusual ability to concentrate, burning desire to be the best, as well as the specific, physical characteristics that enhanced the athlete's ability. Thus genetics, without question, precludes equality of performance.

Surely, at least, equality of opportunity should be acknowledged after seeing those from the "have-not" regions of the world successfully complete with the athletes of the "have" lands. Yet that slogan, too, cannot bare close scrutiny. Environment, be it the region we live in, the influential adults of our early lives, the economic strata in which we are placed, - none of those can be legislated to provide a level playing field.

That all people in this world are neither born equal nor have equal opportunities does not imply that we each individually and collectively give up the goal of bettering life's opportunities for those who have been shortchanged of its benefits. But such should make us leery of reaching for impossible goals.

All of the above is merely by way of introducing my views concerning the verbal battle now surrounding the Olympics about whether we Canadians should measure our self worth according to the world standards of medals attained or to a more personal one of satisfaction with a job well done, whatever the outcome. Such simplistic either/ors only make murky the important debate of how to best support our athletes in the future.

These two directions that are evolving to define our future goals as a country seem diametrically opposed and flawed. On the one hand is the argument that the goal, which

means the gold, defines achievement. Winning is all. Yet even as we are being urged to promote that idea we are seeing the results presented by our neighbours to the south who have single-mindedly embraced that dictum through all facets of society for many decades. It has shown its warts before with scandals in sports, in commerce etc, but never so blatantly as on the world's stage during the Olympics. These weeks we have watched in horror as the adult leaders of their athletic stars try to rationalize their decision to hide doping infractions in order to allow their athletes to "bring home the gold."

On the other hand we can now see the unsatisfactory results of our approach, that of concentrating on the process of personal growth of the individual athletes as our gage for success. The frustration of our athletes was vented time and again as they went on to achieve their personal best only to find that that best was far below world standard. The people back home wanting Canada to measure up on the world stage and hoping

that the medal count would rank us with the world's elite were extremely disappointed.

The concept, the word, that seems to be singularly missing from what will now no doubt become a national debate between the value of process as an end in itself and need to attain external rewards, is human excellence. Excellence can embrace both philosophies as long as we do not lose sight of the all encompassing nature of that word. It does not mean that everything depends upon the achievement of external predefined goals like winning the gold. Nor does it only stress the personal satisfaction of a job well done regardless of external measuring sticks.

Excellence in its totality is a complex concept, difficult to maintain when public honours, financial benefits etc. can interfere. But the goal of excellence for all involved, from OAC officials to volunteer coaches, just might be that one simple, pithy idea that does enable all of us to rally round and seek, whatever our degree of participation, to achieve our dreams of significance on the stage of the world.



marion hare

perspectives

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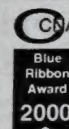
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A rose by any other name

My kids came into the tv room after school on Thursday expecting to see some Olympic coverage. Instead they found me in tears. I had just heard the news of Pierre Elliot Trudeau's death and I was filled with sadness and emotion, not just at his passing but of the passing of an era.

As many of you know, I am from Ottawa, arriving in 1967 and wreaking havoc upon the fair city until I moved here to Haliburton in 1983. Coincidentally, that is about the same time Pierre Trudeau arrived and so I have always felt that our lives have been linked by a city and a period of time that can only be described as exceptional.

It was a different time, with a different feeling, due in large part to Pierre Trudeau. It has been said countless times in the last few days that people either loved Trudeau or hated him. I loved him - for being a passionate Canadian and making me feel that same pride in my country and for so many more reasons.

As I watched much of the coverage of Trudeau's life over the weekend I was stunned by how much I remembered of the events that are now being described as history. Living in Ottawa, we were on the cutting edge of Trudeaumania and saw first hand the dashing and debonair persona who was taking Parliament Hill and the country by storm. And those roses!

He was larger than life and brought glamour and sparkle to a city that wasn't known for those traits. All of the sudden it was exciting to be Canadian, who would have ever thought!

I remember the October Crisis of 1970. It was a frightening time, being told to go directly home from school, do not talk to anyone, do not stop and seeing armed guards instead of crossing guards. Everyone had an opinion of Mr. Trudeau and the War Measures Act, not the least of whom was my mother. I remember seeing her crying at the news of M. Laporte's death and the fear we all felt. And the relief when it was over.

I remember that bevy of beauties that always seemed to be on Canada's most eligible bachelor's arm and the style and flair with which he dressed. Of course, that all came to a surprising end when he married Margaret Sinclair, the 22-year-old young woman who captured his heart. And then there was the family. Who else but Pierre Trudeau could have not one, but two sons born on Christmas day?

My mother was a great people watcher and if there was an occasion happening in Ottawa, we were there. I would often be with her at Uplands Air Force Base when the Queen or other dignitaries would arrive, or head down to Rideau Hall or 24 Sussex to see if we could catch a glimpse of someone. It wasn't uncommon for us to be in the same circle as Pierre Trudeau. The only difference was he was on the inside of the circle and we were usually outside, down the block and around the corner. But it was fun just the same.

So of course, when Queen Elizabeth came in 1982 for the patriation of the Constitution, Mom and I were all over it. I can still see Pierre and Liz riding up Sussex Dr. in an open landau and as soon as they passed by (and waved right at us!), racing up the to Parliament Hill for the signing.

Mom and I went out for lunch afterward because we felt we should celebrate such an historic day for Canada.

I had my own encounter with M. Trudeau back in 1977. My friend Trish Moloughney and I were doing some Christmas shopping on the Sparks St. Mall after our exams had finished. As we came out of Woolworth's, we encountered many men in dark clothing walking around, casting furtive glances everywhere. We kept on talking and laughing, not really paying much attention to them but sort of wondering what they were doing. As we emerged from The House of Fudge, we nearly walked right into Mr. Trudeau himself.

There he was with his boys, apparently doing some Christmas shopping of their own.

There are few times in my life I have been speechless but this was one of them. Trish and I just stood there, our jaws on the ground, pointing and stuttering, of all things. I guess he was used to the reaction. He merely smiled that trademark smile, said "A very Merry Christmas to you, ladies", took his boys by the hand and sauntered off. It is something I'll never forget.

For all of his brilliance in politics and the law, and for all he did for this country, I still think that Mr. Trudeau's finest work was with the raising of his three sons. He loved them beyond anything else he did and I think much of what he did for our country stemmed from wanting a wonderful country for them to grow up in. Many of us feel as though we have lost a part of Canada with Trudeau's passing but they have lost their father and my heart goes out to them at this difficult time.

I have so many emotions for a man who did so much in such a unique way. Merci, M. Trudeau - rest well.



anne
creelman

anecdotes



pic of the past

This week's Pic of the Past is particularly appropriate because one of the people in it is a well known local artist whose work is now proudly displayed in the lobby of Haliburton Hospital. The late Ethel Curry, shown here second from right enjoying a boating outing on her beloved Drag Lake, painted powerful images of the rugged Highlands landscape. (Her friend and fellow artist Doris McCarthy has also donated a painting for the lobby of the hospital). In the photo, from left, are, Viola Curry, Mrs. W. R. Curry, a local school teacher (name not known), Ethel Curry and Fred Walsh. Our thanks to Jean Bradley of Welland for providing us with this photo,

letters to the editor

'We and they' does not apply

To the Editor:

A Message for Cheryl Mansell:

During my nine years on Stanhope Council I have always felt that politicians or those striving to be so, should not use the editorial section of our newspapers to further their cause. However, Cheryl Mansell's recent letter to the editor is very misleading and must be challenged. I feel that her slamming of the present council is totally unjustified.

Cheryl is implying that because she is not a full-time resident, we feel she is not entitled to a position on council. That is not so. At the Maple-Beech Lake Property Owners Association and the Kushog Lake Property Owners Association I prefaced my remarks regarding Cheryl with the comment that I had great respect for her ambition to get into local politics. The issue as far as all of us on council, and many others I have spoken with, is her aiming for the top job with no previous experience. I liken this to running for Prime Minister or president of a country having had no previous experience in a legislature, or appointing someone to be a principal of a school having had no previous teaching experience or promoting someone to CEO of a company having had no previous managerial experience. I would have no problem with Cheryl running for council and eventually aiming for the top job with the necessary experience under her belt.

Cheryl claims that no member of the present council has taken it upon themselves to critique her stand on current issues. The fact is we have only seen her at the two meetings mentioned above. She has yet to attend a council meeting to see what goes on, she has not attended any of the public transition board meetings to get a feel for

the challenges which we have been solving since early in March, nor has she, to my knowledge, ever attended any Stanhope committee meetings which are also open to the public. If she really wants to discuss issues with us, these are where issues are dealt with and this is where she can really find out what is going on.

As far as I can determine, Cheryl's lack of knowledge of what we do, is forcing her to grasp at this we/they issue in order to attract the attention of our very important seasonal residents. One only needs to review the recently reported comments of Norma Goodger and Christine Macartney at the Kushog Lake meeting to realize that the present Stanhope council does not operate with a we/they mentality.

Jim Hicks,
Councillor for the Township of Stanhope

Disturbing implications

To the Editor:

Re: Boshkung fights for public access to Buckslides

There were several disturbing implications in The Echo's report of the presentation made to Stanhope council by the Boshkung Lake Cottagers' Association, calling for the creation of a trail along the Buckslides. Although Pat Lowery is quoted as saying it was a "simple matter of a by-law", were it so, the matter should have been resolved years ago. No doubt time will determine the legalities of this particular situation.

Rather, it is the broader implications raised in the article that beg comment. There appeared to

See **Public's rights** page 11

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur





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Public rights don't extend to private land

from page 9

be some very personal comments made that seemed inappropriate and offensive, when stated in a public council meeting and recorded in the media. While The Echo does not print the names of those accused under criminal law, it has no such hesitation in printing potentially damaging hearsay.

In addition, it appears the proposal is being made that in order to "just gain the rights of the public" the owners of the property adjoining the river will be forced to give up their safety, security and privacy so that all may enjoy the beautiful scenery. No matter the cost - financial or environmental, I assume. No matter that the same family has owned the property for 54 years. No matter that hikers and cyclists would have to literally walk across steps, patios and through personal space, in order to afford themselves of the view. Who is "the public"?

I would enjoy packing a picnic lunch and heading out for a walk along the shoreline of Boshkung Lake. I understand there are some particularly lovely views on both sides of the lake. Or perhaps, I could spend the afternoon in one spot, bring my dog and extended family and just enjoy the 66-foot right of way. According to the people quoted in your article, I would be simply exercising my public right.

Sharon Lynch,
Haliburton

Sharon Lynch is one of the paper's columnists...

No credit given for good things done

To the Editor:

When Lori Parniak set out to correct a previous letter about the Dorset school situation last week, she used a paragraph to incorrectly smear the Harris government on the subject of grants for education from municipal taxes.

It seems acceptable these days to blame Harris for everything from this summer's strange weather to last winter's lack of snow.

However, the fact is that it was the Harris government who equalized the per capita grant for each student across the province so that our children and grandchildren have the same chance to use computers in our schools as those in the higher income areas like Toronto's wealthy Forest Hill.

While we're at it, let's point out that the GST and federal taxes on gasoline jump with every price increase, but Harris froze the provincial tax bite at a flat level

shortly after he came into office.

The way things are distorted by newspapers like the Toronto Star and some powerful unions these days, it's no wonder the Ontario government has to spend advertising dollars to get credit for any of the good things they have accomplished.

Harvey M. Clarke,
Donald

"Tax rebate bribe" won't make up for all the punishment Harris has dished out

To the Editor:

Mr. Harris's Common-Sense Revolution was best described by Dalton Camp, the Guru of the Conservative Party, as A Sheer-Dangerous Nonsense Revolution. Let's look at the results to date of Harris's efforts on behalf of the business elite who backed him.

Education comes to mind. First the people were told over and over again that our public schools were in critical condition and had to be fixed. Although this was a complete fabrication since all that was required at that time was replacing missing funding. However, as Hitler noted, tell a big lie often enough and it is accepted as the truth.

So, he took a billion dollars away from what was already a system short of cash then started a vicious attack on the teachers. He took away all taxation rights from local school boards then loaded the teachers with an unwieldy burden of extra work. When it became obvious that there would be no time for extra-curricu-

lar supervision, his stooge, Janet ???, said that maybe they could be paid to do so. Firstly, the teachers have always done these after-hour chores with love and pleasure. They were insulted and appalled.

You get the drift. The next step was partially-publicly funded private schools for his rich friends and a badly damaged public system for the dumb rednecks who voted him in. Finally, the even more cash strapped universities are to be replaced with private ones for the financially able.

Universal Medicare was next. Again, he stripped the system of funding even though, at this time, he is about to bribe his greedy fans with \$200 each to the tune of a billion dollars. His answer to the problem: private clinics for the upper class.

Finally, those pesky trade unions. Why a bill to strip them of most of their historic rights. You can hear all the rustic yo-yos cheer. As a going-away present he intends to legislate his own tax sys-

tem. His argument is that our wealthy business elite are paying too high a bill for social justice.

Only the willfully blind will refuse to see the writing on the wall for our publicly funded school system. Locally, the majority of our citizens in my area watch with dismay as amalgamation destroys our small communities, particularly since study after study have shown that there is no financial benefit for the taxpayer and the democratic process is further diluted.

Enough already. I don't know if there are enough people in the province to fall for the tax-rebate bribe but the very fact that a semi-literate rednecked loser like Harris could fool the electorate twice certainly doesn't make me feel optimistic.

I guess Harris's thinking might go like this: If appealing to bigotry, greed, ignorance and intolerance works, why shouldn't bribing make the grade.

H. Michael Collins,
Gooderham

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County Official Plan won't be in place until early summer

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Although county council had hoped to adopt the county's first Official Plan before its term of office expired in November, it appears the honour will go to the next council.

Council has received a revised time table from its consultant, who says the OP won't be in place until May, 2001.

A report on all the comments made of the first draft will be presented to county council at its October 25 meeting. It's hoped council will approve the revisions to the draft, which will then be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and forwarded to other ministries.

It is expected the Ministry review will take six to 10 weeks.

Then the provincial comments will be incorporated into a new draft of the Official Plan for presentation to the new county council in January.

If county council approves this new draft, there will be 20-days' notice of a public meeting some time after the third week of February for public comment.

These comments will be reviewed and presented to county council on February 28. Council will give its instructions to the planners, who will then have a final draft ready for the March 28 county council meeting.

The OP will be given first and second reading March 28, with third reading at the county council meeting on April 25. All texts and maps will be available for final submission to the province.

After one last provincial review, the Official Plan should become truly official in May.

It is not known whether there will be an appeal of the plan to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Progress made toward 9-1-1

Task of naming roads and numbering properties still huge

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Patting the top of a pile of papers several centimetres thick, the man overseeing the road naming process says he's got his work cut out for him in the next few weeks.

There was enthusiastic response to the request to have members of the public suggest names for the hundreds of private roads which previous had been marked by property owners' signs nailed to a tree at an intersection, Stephen Foster told county council on Wednesday.

"I'm very pleased," the geographer said, noting the county office was still getting submissions even though the deadline had passed. (In cases where there was a duplication in name suggestions, it was first suggested, first named.)

Some lake associations came up with names for all of its private roads while other suggestions came in on a road-by-road basis.

That leaves hundreds of suggestions for Foster to organize and submit to municipal councils for their final approval.

Work is also progressing on the digitization of maps.

All of these steps are taking the county closer to getting 9-1-1.

The county has agreed to spearhead and pay for the initiative. Originally the county had budgeted roughly \$400,000 for the project, but Foster cautioned that it might cost more.

He recently met with the committees responsible for implementing 9-1-1 in Frontenac and Renfrew counties. Frontenac spent \$416,000 to identify and number 8,000 properties. Haliburton County, with its plethora of cottages, has 30,000 properties.

"I don't think the cost will rise proportionally but it gives us an idea" of how much money might have to be budgeted, Foster said, adding that Renfrew County was given \$500,000 from the proceeds of an International Plowing Match to pay for much of its costs.

He also noted that Renfrew had one full time and two contract people working on 9-1-1 and although the program is now up and running, it still has a full-time person on staff to manage all the changes and additions.

The next stage is to get the assessment rolls for each municipality and match the roll numbers with the property. Next summer, the plan is to hire students to use GPS to put each property on the map.

Before we get to the next

stage, Snowdon Reeve Ross Rigney said there should be a tender on the project.

"We've been taking it in bits with no bidding process," Rigney said.

The county has been hiring Foster, a Loon Lake cottager, on a step-by-step basis. Foster started his work on the project as a volunteer on the county's integrated database committee, which he oversaw for more than a year. Dysart and then other municipalities hired him to do their road naming projects, and the county followed suit.

Lutterworth Reeve Jim McMahon, chairman of the emergency services committee working on the project, said "you have to start somewhere which is identify the roads, then it's got to go out to tender or be done in house."

Meanwhile, the Gull Lake Property Owners Association says it doesn't want to give up its present numbering system, which doesn't comply with the county's distance-based numbering system. A meeting will be held with the association executive on Thanksgiving weekend but McMahon said "we need one form (of numbering) to make this work. It's got to be uniform throughout the county."

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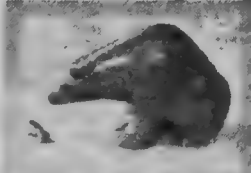
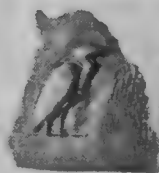
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Highlands won't be getting any of new non-acute beds

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at a recent meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board in Minden.

Having hoped that a study of the allocation of new non-acute care beds in the region would include three rehabilitation beds in the Highlands, board delegate Peter White came away from a recent meeting with the District Health Council disappointed and angry.

"We're not getting three rehabilitation beds," he reported. "I felt (allocation of the beds) was a fait accompli. We're not getting any beds."

Those new beds will likely go to Peterborough, perhaps Lindsay, White said.

He and hospital physiotherapist Sue Ripley recently attended a DHC meeting to present statistics on the Highlands' healthcare needs in hopes of convincing the DHC that some of the new beds are needed in the Highlands.

White felt the DHC had already made up its mind about where the beds should be and that the board was "being manipulated" into believing there was a point in going to the

meeting.

The DHC says the Highlands doesn't have "the critical mass" of patients to make such beds feasible.

Executive director Foster Loucks said he "didn't have a problem" with recognizing the local facilities could not provide all levels of rehabilitation, but he had felt there was a chance of getting beds for patients at certain stages of their recuperation. He had also hoped the HHHS would be allocated 11 or 12 complex care beds.

Although the allocation of rehabilitation and complex care beds would have reduced the number of long-term care beds available, Loucks said it would allow the HHHS to provide a more comprehensive spectrum of the types of care required by patients.

Moving day

As work at the Haliburton site moves towards completion, it is expected that the acute care patients will be moved into the newly refurbished old hospital on Sept. 27. During the renovation, the patients have been accommodated in the new long-term care wing, which was finished first.

It is expected that the hospital will begin admitting the 30

long-term care patients three at a time starting October 23 and lasting two weeks.

In Minden, there were delays in construction over the summer because of a shortage of contractors so the new emergency department won't be ready for several weeks.

Hiring issues

Many job applications for the new long-term care unit were received, especially for the Personal Support Worker positions, executive director Foster Loucks reported.

Two unions – the SIEU and CUPE – "are claiming that (the HHHS) has violated the scope and recognition clauses of their respective agreements as we move ahead to hire staff for the new long-term care unit at Haliburton," Loucks said in his report.

Despite this, he said it was important to move ahead with the hiring.

"It serves to underline why it is important that the Labour Relations Board, as we have requested, give favourable consideration to requiring that a representational vote be held amongst all staff concerning which union should represent them as we move forward," he said.



MARTHA PERKINSECHO

A creative welcome

There were some colourful looking characters, including a lovable dog and cat, in the hallways of Stuart Baker Elementary School when parents arrived for the annual open house last week. Students, including Seth and Emma McKnight, participated in the fanciful decorating blitz spearheaded by teacher Diane Dawson.

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Safe water concerns lead to call for province-wide study

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

In 1999, the district health unit was given 1,300 samples of drinking water to send away for testing.

In three weeks in June, just after the deadly outbreak of E. Coli in Walkerton's water supply, the health unit helped to administer 7,000 water sample tests.

This increased awareness of what can go wrong with our water supplies is both welcomed by the health unit, and the cause of tremendous pressure on its resources.

That pressure was only increased when roughly 37 percent of the water tests came back with more than five levels of coliform or any hint of E. Coli (but not the same illness-causing strain that was in Walkerton's water.) When someone got an adverse result, they'd often called the health unit to ask what should be done.

"There isn't enough time in the day to deal with the public," says Dr. Alex Hukowich, chief medical officer of health, speaking at the health unit's board meeting at Wigamog last

Tuesday. "We will have to have some discussion on whose role this is and what's the cost. Between the taxpayer and the government, how will it work out?"

The major issue is not whether E. Coli makes its way into private wells; the issue is whether well owners are taking the proper steps to ensure those wells are working properly and safely, especially once they find out there's a problem. Every property owner is responsible for the operation of his or her well; it's not a municipal responsibility, as was the case in Walkerton.

Dr. Hukowich explained that every person and warm-blooded mammal or bird has "quadrillions" of E. Coli in their guts. A test showing E. Coli indicates that somehow animal or bird fecal matter made it into the water.

Although most strains cause no illness, "we test for these bacteria (in water) as an indicator, and it's an indicator only of some kind of potential problem," Dr. Hukowich said, noting test results which show the presence of E. Coli often give people a false sense of alarm. "They're not an indication peo-

ple are going to get sick (if they drink the water.) If you're sick, go see your doctor. If you're not sick and you have some level of bacteria, you have to look at your system and fix it."

Of all the samples that came back with a reading of more than five counts of coliform and any trace of E. Coli, 23 percent were those submitted from Haliburton County, 40 percent were from Northumberland and 38 percent were from Victoria County.

Sample water testing is a poor way of setting off warning bells about the safety of drinking the water since test results aren't back for a couple of weeks, Dr. Hukowich said. He compared it to a smoke alarm which takes samples of air once a week and only sets off alarm bells two weeks later if something is amiss.

After the Walkerton scare, the health unit is now receiving the results of all tests for its information, as well as the person who submitted the water. What should the health unit do - or be expected to do - with those results?

"It's not the health unit's responsibility to phone people if there are bad results," Dr.

Hukowich said. "If it were, we wouldn't have the resources to deal with it. The public gets the results and if they want some advice, they phone us."

And yet the testing lab sends the results on a 24-hour basis by fax.

"An adverse result is anything other than 0 (coliform) and 0 (bacteria)," he explained, also noting that beaches are safe for swimming until the bacteria level reaches 100, although there is talk of going to the federal standard of 200.

"At one in the morning, we could get a report of 1 and 0. That reading could have nothing to do with the safety of water. The health unit is now in the loop, perhaps much more than we need to be."

This leads to the larger issue of how do we know groundwater is safe?

To this end, the health unit is asking the province to do a study of private wells and groundwater sources. That would help put all the thousands of test results into a broader, more effective context.

The study would also give everyone a better sense of how many people rely on private

wells, the age and construction of the wells, and whether all wells are being tested.

"It's not just analyzing the results (of water testing.) We need to find out more about people who don't test... I don't have a sense that there's any type of plan for the people on private wells."

As well, Dr. Hukowich says there needs to be a better way of notifying people if there's a problem with a municipal water source. Right now the health unit issues boil water orders, but that's not an effective or efficient way of preventing illness. What if someone knows about the warning but drinks the water anyway? What if someone doesn't hear about the warning.

"I think we have to have better systems of communicating if there's a problem."

Some suggestions are an automatic dialing system which would telephone each person on the water system or putting a dye in the water to let people know it's not safe for drinking.

"Is it safer to shut down a water system," he asked.

That's another issue the board would like to see addressed.

This week you'll find sports in the second section of The Echo on pages 36 & 37

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Studio Tour is more than just a tour



Trails & Tours Talk

by BARRIE MARTIN

Thirteen years ago a group of entrepreneurial artisans had an idea - one that has evolved into one of the most significant events in Haliburton County. Hundreds of people toured the roads on September 30 and October 1 to marvel and purchase the finest of art and crafts. It was also a perfect weekend to explore and admire the colours of autumn. (Many of their studios are also open on Thanksgiving weekend. Check the Studio Tour map for details.)

The Haliburton County Studio Tour is more than just a tour. The 25 or so artisans featured on the Studio Tour depend on it for a significant part of their annual income. They have built this worthwhile venture with many hours of hard work, good marketing savvy and without the assistance of public funding. They have demonstrated that artists and craftspeople can

make a living in the county. Many other businesses, including other artisans, benefit from the influx of visitors. The success of the Studio Tour contributes to the year round viability of the arts industry.

The arts community in the County is vibrant and growing, due in part to the Studio Tour. The Tour has helped bring attention to other aspects of the arts scene - the galleries, community sculpture and murals, the Haliburton School of the Arts and other artisans (and vice versa, of course). The artisans participating in the Studio Tours must meet high standards - high quality, original, locally crafted work produced in large quantities. While these standards may be a source of frustration for artisans wishing to join the tour, they encourage excellence in art.

The Studio Tour is an education - craftspeople in their own studios demonstrating how they create their works of art and sharing a few tricks of the trade. The Studio Tour is comfort shopping - nibbling on some tasty treats and chatting with other tour-ists, local folk, neighbours and artisans. There is no pressure to buy - none of those awkward moments when you are the only one in the studio

and feel you should buy something.

The Haliburton County Studio Tour; more than just a tour; a "natural work of art"

Down on the Corner

Have you noticed the new timber post and beam structures on the corners in Carnarvon and Cardiff and on Highway 35 south of Moore's Falls? These are the new trail information kiosks being placed at the gateways into the County by the Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network.

These kiosks, recently erected by Northern Timberhouse, will soon contain eight information panels including five maps that will orient visitors to the trails and tours found in the County. In addition to a general trail map, similar to the one found in our new brochure, Trails in the Haliburton Highlands, there will be maps depicting winter trails, summer trails, local area tours and the Central Ontario Loop Trail. Additional trail information will be available at adjacent businesses - Noble Motel, Drifter's Restaurant and the Corner Store.

The kiosks will also be works of art complete with scrolled pictographs crafted by Sigi and Sergio Zrinscak, and interactive

wildlife panels by Mary Anne Barkhouse and Michael Belmore.

The Network invites area businesses to book the attractive advertising space available in the kiosks. For more information, please call the Trails and Tours Network at 286-1760.

Take a hike, eh

Last week was Hike Ontario Week (www.hikeontario.com).

Perfect conditions for hiking prevail at this time of year with fall colours, no bugs and comfortable temperatures for exercising. Algonquin South, Silent Lake Provincial Park, Snowdon Park, the Frost Centre, Glebe Park, Stanhope Township, Dorset Tower and Moosewoods all offer great hiking opportunities. If not hike, why not bike. Our new Cycling Routes in The Haliburton Highlands brochure is now available.

Meeting Memories

The Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network just held a memorable meeting of their Board of Directors. Several projects, as follows, got the green light to proceed.

- hiring a consultant to design and develop a computerized inventory and database for trails
- hiring a consultant to devel-

op a trail template (signage, trailhead, construction and maintenance guidelines) for future trail development

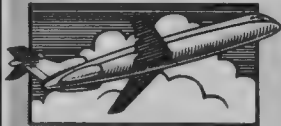
- hiring a coordinator to prepare and implement a resource development plan (fundraising, membership and volunteers)
- re-design and enhancement of the web site

The Network will be seeking input and participation in these projects from all trail owners and managers in the County.

Special thanks to Bill Burns for donating some of the proceeds from his Early Snow, Algoma print to the Network. These beautiful prints can be purchased at Sir Sam's Inn, Wigamog Inn, Pinestone Golf and Conference Resort, Master's Book Store, The Rainbow Gallery and Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

The next board meeting will be held on October 11 at 7 p.m. at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery. Please plan to join us. For more information about the Trails and Tours Network or to join as an individual, family, organization or business please contact Rachel Gillooly, Trails and Tours Coordinator at 705-286-1760 or info@trailsandtours.on.ca or www.trailsandtours.on.ca

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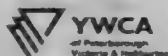
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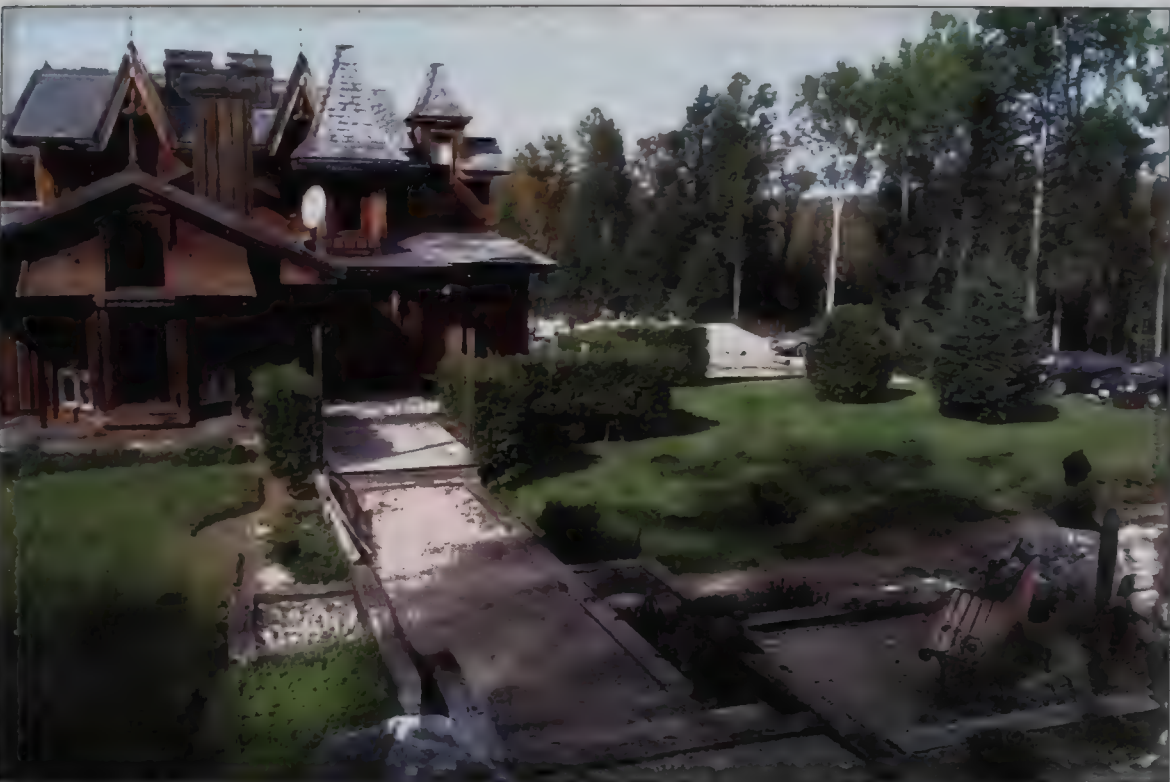
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STUDIO TOUR



photos by
MARTHA PERKINS



The weather was absolutely glorious on the weekend when dozens of local artisans opened their studio doors in this autumn tradition. Clockwise from top left: As a generalization, it could be said that while the women shop, the men like to admire the architecture of the artisans' homes, such as this whimsical wooden house belonging to Cindy Vellinga and Mike Wilson; Krista Patterson of Eagle Lake admires one of Vellinga's stained glass mirror; Graeme Wales, aka The Hairy Potter, demonstrates his craft; a woman browses through the displays of Bennett Puppets; Brett Reeds, who's been going on Studio Tours since she was a baby, admires one of Chuck O'Neil's wire sculptures; and Lee-Anne Rupert indulges in the goodies at Bennett's.

A caring artistic community chips in

Art is predominant at Haliburton Hospital... naturally

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

If Haliburton County is a natural work of art, then it's only fitting that its healthcare facilities use art to help comfort and inspire the people who find themselves within their walls.

At the Haliburton Hospital particularly, there is a quiet celebration of the artistic talent to be found within the county.

Not only have most local artists donated something to decorate the facility in a project spearheaded by the Haliburton Highlands Guild of Fine Arts, but visitors are greeted by two sculptures before they even enter the doors.

The sculptures, entitled *Against the Wind*, were crafted by Haliburton's John Beachli, who donated the two separate figures of a man bent over a plough and a woman holding onto a small child as the wind threatens to buffet them to the ground.

They represent the tough pioneer spirit which was so vital in settling this county and Beachli hopes they tell a story to all who pass by.

In another touching gesture of personal generosity, at Friday's official opening ceremonies, Sheila and Don Popple donated an original oil work by the woman who may be Haliburton's first artist, the late

Ethel Curry, who was the sister of Sheila Popple's father. This painting was obviously one of Curry's favourites, because it was the one she had in her bedroom until she died this past spring at the age of 97.

In 1933, Ethel Curry invited a fellow teacher to accompany her back home for a summer of painting. She and Doris McCarthy paddled their way to camp on North Lake and stayed there for weeks to paint – not exactly something that was often done by two women in those days.

It was a journey they would make often as Doris McCarthy so evocatively remembers in her memoirs, *A Fool in Paradise*. From 1933 to 1937, the two women visited the Highlands frequently, and while McCarthy would more actively pursue her painting career – she recently, at the age of 90, took a painting trip to British Columbia's remote interior – the two women remained friends. Several years ago, they had a joint exhibit at the Rail's End Gallery.

When the Popples decided to donate their aunt's painting on permanent loan to the hospital, they wondered if the two friends would like to be together again in the Highlands. With the help of local art aficionado Daniel Zakib and Popple's brother Bob, they contacted Doris McCarthy and asked if



Flanked by David Coulson, chairman of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board, and Gord Monk, chairman of the HHHS Foundation board, Haliburton artist John Beachli presents the sculptures he's donating to the Haliburton Hospital.

she'd like to donate a painting to hang beside Ethel Curry's. The Toronto artist, who's work is in high demand, instantly agreed. And so the two friends are back together again, sharing their love of Haliburton to those visiting their loved ones in the hospital.

And of course, there's the large original oil painting, *A Campfire Tradition*, which hangs in the front foray. It was painted and donated by Highlands artist David Alexander Risk, who also gave the rights of the painting to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, which is

selling prints of the painting as a fundraiser.

Risk said he hoped the fire in the painting keeps the flame burning in the hearts of all who paused to enjoy it.

"We are very honoured and deeply touched to be able to be part of this today," he told the crowd gathered in front of the Haliburton Hospital's new 30-bed long-term care unit on Friday. "What a day to celebrate life."

In Minden, the Agnes Jamieson Gallery is working with various local artists to decorate the facility.



Don and Sheila Popple presented one of the late Ethel Curry's paintings on permanent loan to the hospital. It will be beside a painting by Curry's friend, Doris McCarthy.

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Volunteers and donors praised

"For a small area we have big hearts," says MPP Chris Hodgson, who was given much credit for pushing the projects ahead

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

It truly is a time of thanksgiving in the Highlands.

Of course, everyone is thankful to be able to finally celebrate the opening of new healthcare facilities for the Highlands.

But those opening ceremonies on Friday were also a time to thank many of the people responsible for making such an occasion possible. (In this report, speeches from the two events have been combined.)

Master of Ceremonies Peter Forgrave said it was thanks to MPP Chris Hodgson's guidance and hard work that critical meetings with senior Ministry of Health staff were arranged, approvals were attained and funding flowed. Hodgson played "a key role" in the project's success.

"None of this would have been possible without the hard work of your MPP," agreed Health Minister Elizabeth Witmer at the Minden opening (another commitment prevented her from attending the Haliburton opening.) "Since Chris was elected, he came specifically to put forward your dreams and aspirations. Chris Hodgson has worked hard on behalf of the people... and it doesn't hurt that Chris is chairman of the management board."

"We certainly recognize the political power of Chris Hodgson," said Haliburton County Warden Jeanne Anthon. "When we had difficult times, we'd say 'it's time to talk to Chris again.'"

In turn, Hodgson deflected some of the praise to others.

He said Hugh Nichol had dedicated six years of his life to the project, especially when Nichol was chairman of the HHHS board during the critical planning stages.

"He really did pull it all

together," Hodgson said, adding that Nichol had both the management skills to handle all the pressures back at home, but also the business skills to be a highly effective voice for the Highlands when dealing with the various ministries at Queen's Park.

"Hugh has a good, sharp business mind and that's what was needed."

Of all the people who have served on the various boards over the years, Hodgson said "it's not just the meetings, it's the worrying at night, wondering if this would ever happen."

Thinking of all the work that's gone into reaching this day, Hodgson said "for a small area we have big hearts."

Hodgson said we are fortunate to have an administrator the calibre of Foster Loucks, who was born in the Highlands and had a career in healthcare before moving back to Haliburton to become the first executive director of the HHHS. "He's been a great asset to us."

He praised Witmer, whose first official task was to turn the sod at the facilities three years ago. "She's a hard worker, sincere and honest and she cares about the whole province, especially rural areas. It's not always an easy job but I can tell you that she cares."

Witmer congratulated HHHS executive director Foster Loucks, David Coulson, the current chairman of the HHHS board and past chairmen, the late Stuart Baker, Paul Heffer and Nichol, "who had the dream, who had the vision."

"We are seeing your work brought to fruition."

She thanked "the tireless group of volunteers who are so important" to the success of such large undertaking, and to the many people who have donated to the projects.

"To the staff," she continued, "let me say thanks for your

MARTHA PERKINS/Echo



MARTHA PERKINS/Echo



Gord Monk, above, chairman of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, explains the meaning behind the various plaques on the donor wall at the Hyland Crest site in Minden. Donors of more than \$2,500 get special recognition on the wall, of which there is another at the Haliburton Hospital.

General Motors' family of workers is deeply committed to the Highlands, said vice president of corporate and environmental affairs Tayce Wakefield, at left, when she presented a donation of \$25,000 from General Motors to Gord Monk and Don Popple of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

dedication and compassion, your tireless efforts" in helping to create a healthy community with a high quality of life.

She stressed her government is committed to ensuring all Ontario residents have access to high quality care and integrated services. "Our premier recognized that we had to restore our health system and bring healthcare closer to home and make sure we had services everyone," she said, noting the Conservatives \$17.4-billion in healthcare funding in 1995 has now reached \$22-billion a year. "We stand firm in our commitment to strengthening Ontario's healthcare system."

Coulson says "many people helped to create this vision; we're grateful for all of your assistance."

"(But) I'd like to thank the real heroes, the staff who work in both facilities," he said, before listing the names of staff. "They are the super heroes. These are the people who lived through the construction, the dirt, the noise, the confusion. Not only did they survive, they provided quality healthcare."

Gord Monk, chairman of the HHHS Foundation board, said "it is with great humility I stand before you and say thank you for the wonderful things you have done through your donations. I'm sure as you explore the facilities you have to be impressed."

He remembers when Mike Harris, then just PC leader, came to Minden and promised that a Tory government would see the facilities built. "He and Chris have kept their word," Monk said, also thanking MP John O'Reilly for being "most conscious of our needs."

Turning to the crowd of hundreds of donors and supporters at both sites, Monk said "It is you the people who have made this possible. We can only say thank you."

Monk and fundraising chairman Don Popple unveiled the Donor Wall in each facility. The plaques bear the names of people who have donated more than \$2,500. There is also a book, which will be continually updated, which lists the names of everyone who's contributed.

He noted that it was the fundraising efforts of Barb Dawson in the late 1980s, when Haliburton was first promised 18-beds, provided the foundation for the current efforts. (The \$400,000 her committee raised

was put in trust when a freeze was put on the 18 beds. That money later garnered \$770,000 for the Foundation when the new projects were initiated.)

"Thank you Barb for all your work. You can take great pride (in today's accomplishments.)"

"I can remember when Barb Dawson was in The Echo more than I am now," Hodgson said, also joining in the praise of the first fundraising campaign.

Hodgson also thanked the Stamp family who fought so hard to make the previous Liberal government honour its commitment to give the Highlands the beds it needed. At the massive public protest when the first project was cancelled, Lyle Stamp, who had been paralyzed in a car accident and had to live in healthcare facilities far from his home in West Guilford, became a rallying cry for expanded services. After his passing, his family took up the cause.

In his opening remarks, master of ceremonies Peter Forgrave also extended many words of thanks.

Loucks is "a real driving force for these facilities."

Dale Walker, the Foundation board's first chairperson and now its managing director is "a tireless, enthusiastic, positive force who has been very effective in moving us towards the goal."

Monk is the present "friendly, outgoing chairman."

Bruce Steinberg, site supervisor for Bradscot Construction, has been described as "absolutely great and most accommodating."

MARTHA PERKINS/Echo



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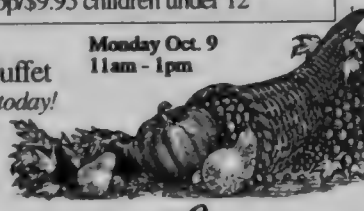
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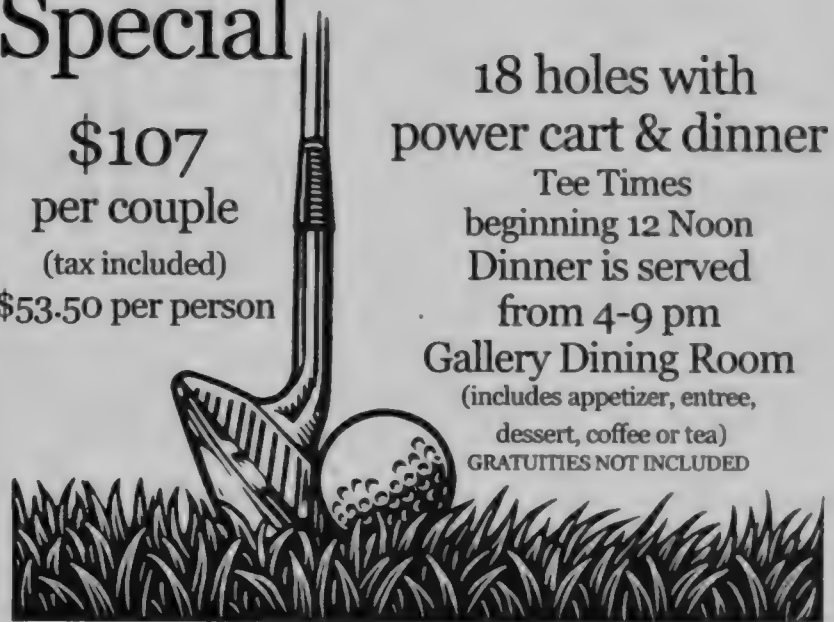
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Thanksgiving
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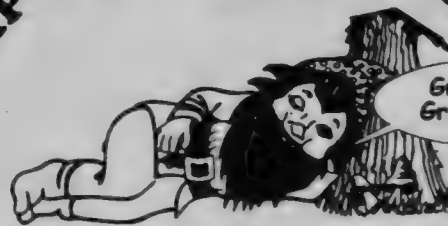
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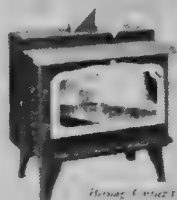
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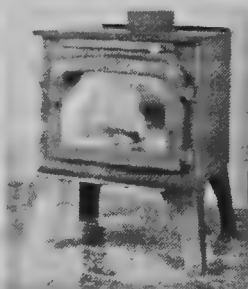
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The fruition of a dream

Facilities in both Minden and Haliburton now much better equipped to meet needs of the Highlands

Here's what \$19.6-million dollars, countless hours of volunteer time and the generous support of all levels of government and donors large and small have achieved for the Highlands.

In Haliburton

- the construction of a 30-bed long-term care unit attached to the Haliburton Hospital
- a renovated emergency department which provides much more space and privacy
- the consolidation of the county's 13 acute-care beds in the completely redone former hospital
- increased office space, including offices for the Haliburton Highlands Health Services administration and HHHS Foundation staff.

In Minden

- the doubling of Hyland Crest, getting rid of the four-bed rooms with bathrooms down the hall and replacing them with private or semi-private rooms, each with its own washroom for the 62 residents
- a new emergency department to replace the one at the Minden Hospital,

an old building that could not be refurbished and will likely be sold. (Construction of this wing is behind schedule; work is expected to be done in about six weeks.)

- overnight observation beds
 - and, should provincial approval be granted, a community health centre which will focus on such things as physiotherapy, services geared to older residents and preventative health.
- Ownership of Hyland Crest will soon be transferred to Haliburton Highlands Health Services, which operates both sites.

And here's who paid the \$19.6-million

- the province contributed a total of \$7.9-million, \$6.2-million under the Canada/Ontario Infrastructure Works program, and \$1.7-million in additional funding when project costs became more than first expected
- the federal government contributed \$6.2-million
- and the county, as in the people of the Highlands, must raise the remaining \$5.5-million. Donations and commitments have already reached \$4-million, leaving another \$1.5-million to go.

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Wondering what to do this weekend while you enjoy Thanksgiving in the Highlands? Pick up a copy of The Echo's award-winning Fall Tour

"Thank God today has happened"

Warden Jeanne Anthon joins other politicians and board members in celebrating the opening of new facilities

from page 1

He said "I'm proud of being part of a government that believes in keeping its commitments," reminding people of a visit he made in 1993 with Mike Harris, then leader of the third party in the polls. Harris said if the Tories were voted into power, the Highlands would get its healthcare facilities.

"It is indeed with great pleasure I share this day with you, all of you who have contributed so much," said Warden Jeanne Anthon. "Be it a \$5 donation or 500 hours of volunteering, you all share in the celebration."

She remembered those who passed away before they could see the culmination of their efforts, and noted the presence of her fellow county politicians: Dysart reeve Murray Fearrey, Lutterworth reeve Jim McMahon, Monmouth Reeve Keith Tallman, Sherborne Reeve Don Shortreed, Snowdon Reeve Ross Rigney and Stanhope Reeve Eleanor Harrison.

"Thank God today has happened," she said in closing.

In his greetings, Fearrey referred to O'Reilly's comment about how proud he was to have helped bring the facilities to the county. Turning to O'Reilly, Fearrey said "we'll make you proud again if you announce another one."

And in a humorous gibe, Fearrey said "by the way John, you can say hello to

Elinor Caplan - we're glad she's not here."

Caplan, who is now a federal cabinet minister, was the Ontario Minister of Health who in 1988 put a freeze on the 18-bed expansion that never took place.

As well as providing the care Highlanders need and deserve, Fearrey said he welcomed the expansion projects because "they give people the confidence that this is a good place to retire, it's a good place to raise kids and it's a good place for all of us."

Dr. Scott Coles, representing the medical community, said the doctors were pleased with the new facilities. "It's nice to see beds are being created in rural areas."

Anglican priest Merv Overall added some levity when before giving the blessing for the Minden facility, explained how he had ties with nearly everyone taking part in the ribbon cutting.

"I think I taught Chris in Sunday school at St. George's (in Haliburton), and if I didn't, I certainly preached at him and I ran, unsuccessfully, in an election against his uncle; I nearly bought a house from John O'Reilly (who was a Lindsay realtor before entering politics); I serve in the Rotary Club with Jeanne Anthon; I nearly rented an apartment from Dale Walker (HHHS Foundation managing director who used to work at Parklane Apartments); and for years now I've tried to stay out of the clutches of

Gord Monk (the chairman of the Foundation board and a retired funeral director.)"

As a minister, Overall is frequently at Hyland Crest. "The facility pleases me considerably. We've come to know the rehabilitated building and we like it."

He invoked a prayer of benediction, remembering that Jesus was a preacher and healer who gave His healing power to his disciples. "By doing so, (Jesus) made known the healing power and presence of God.... At this place of healing and recovery, we ask God's blessing. May it be a sign of our care for others."

Gord Walsh, who gave the blessing at the Haliburton facility, said that in his many visits to the facility, he is often struck by staff and volunteers "who with seemingly tireless hearts and hands spread the word of God... The work carried out is not just a job, it's a ministry."



Health Minister Elizabeth Witmer said the integrated services at the Highlands facilities represented the future of healthcare in Ontario.

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Critical care nurse shares her expertise with the Monmouth fire department

Open house and barbecue is this Saturday

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Every day at work as a critical care nurse at a hospital emergency department in Barrie, Jane Underwood deals with the trauma caused by accidents.

Yet on her days off, she's willing to donate her time to help the Monmouth Fire Department cope with the accidents that happen within its territory.

As Monmouth's newest volunteer firefighter, she's there not so much to fight fires as to further train her fellow volunteers about emergency care.

And from what she's seen of the men in action, she's excited about what they can achieve as a team.

"I've watched from the sidelines and I can't believe how they get through a rough situation medically and emotionally and do such a good job for the community," she says. "I was amazed at their ability at first aid and their ability to talk to people and get their history... This is an elite group of people."

The skills Underwood can bring to the department are being very welcomed by the fire chief, Bill Wingrove. Since 85 percent of the department's calls are to provide emergency first response, he thinks the department is exceedingly lucky to have such a resource amidst its ranks.

As well, since the first minutes after an accident are the most critical, it's very important that the department improves the volunteers' skill levels.

"The service they provide is vital, especially given where we live," says Underwood.

At present, 14 firefighters have taken the required 25 hours of basic first aid training and 30 hours of first response training. Now the department is hoping to get training on the use of a defibrillator, which kickstarts the heart into operation again. For that, not only do you

need the initial training, but the training must be updated every month.

Wingrove asked Underwood to join the department a couple of months ago, and although she was reticent about fire duties, she was so impressed by the calibre of care provided by the department that she felt honoured to sign on.

"I've never lived in an area where I felt so welcome and I wanted to be a part of it," says Underwood, who works in Barrie but lives in Wilberforce with her family. "These fellas are eager to learn and the more I can teach them, the more confidence they'll have and the more lives can be saved."

Of course, such work also brings with it its own special stresses, and as well as helping with medical training, Underwood is going to help them with the emotional strain which accompanies accidents and trauma.

While working on a situation "you have a job to do and you do it," but afterwards, the reality of what just happened sinks in.

"I've developed a skill," she says, "to get my girls (at work) to sit down after an event and get it out of their system. You have to let everyone say what they feel and they have to feel comfortable saying it. It will destroy someone if you don't. Talking is the only way of dealing with it."

Wingrove says another advantage of having Underwood respond to calls is that women patients can be a bit nervous when a bunch of men arrive at their doorstep. The other week, an older female patient was visibly more comfortable once she could talk to Underwood.

On October 7, the Monmouth fire department is hosting an open house to let the community know of some of the exciting things happening at the hall. It's from 9 to 4 and includes a barbecue.

MARTHA PERKINS/Echo

Monmouth fire chief Bill Wingrove is pleased to welcome the department's newest recruit, Jane Underwood, who will help with first response training.



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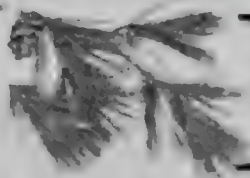
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THE
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Tuesday, October 3, 2000

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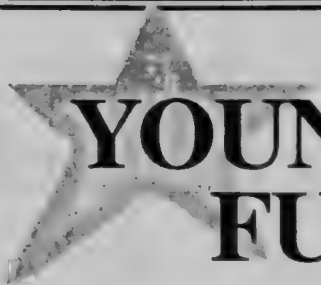


Tips on servicing your vehicle ... pages 25 through 31

Summer's gone, and it's time to

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Oil critical to long engine life

■ *Biggest difference in oils is the quantity, quality of additives*

Chatelaine magazine reports that women make up half of all vehicle purchases. According to Chatelaine, women are responsible for 55% of tune-ups and 45% of major repairs. Whether you're a woman or a man, you may often wonder why you should bother with changing the oil in your car?

The answer is simple. Your car's engine generates temperatures in excess of 200°C under normal operating conditions. If it's a turbo, that's more like 300°C! The oil helps protect your engine. Oil prevents metal to metal contact and cleans out dirt and combustion by-products. Many people don't realize that oil is also an impor-

tant part of the cooling system, dispersing about 20% of engine heat.

Today's cars are designed with smaller, more fuel efficient engines, and are built to tighter tolerances. The engine

But nothing lasts forever. Over time, the oil will lose some of its viscosity (ability to flow) and will pick up enough dirt and water in suspension that it needs to be replaced. Engine

engine deposits, protect engine parts, and improve fuel consumption. They are available at automotive stores or wherever you get your oil changed.

The Car Care Council answers some common questions about motor oil:

Q My owner's manual says I need an API (American Petroleum Institute) service rating SF engine oil. All I can find is SG. Is that okay?

A Yes, the API service ratings proceed in alphabetical order, so SG is a higher standard than SF. Owner's manuals typically say "use SF or higher oils", for example. However, you shouldn't put an SF oil into an engine that requires SG - that could void your warranty and shorten your engine life.

Q What is multigrade oil?

A The grade of an engine oil describes its viscosity (ability to flow). At lower temperatures, oil thickens and doesn't flow as easily - like molasses in January. The lower the number, the more easily it will flow at low temperatures. Multigrades are oils that contain additives called viscosity index improvers, and so they offer a range of viscosities (e.g. 5W30). The lower the number in front of the "W", the greater the oil's ability to flow at low temperature. The number after the "W" indicates the oil's viscosity rating at normal engine operating temperatures. The "W" in the grade stands for winter.

See Consider page 3

Should you just put any kind of oil in your car? The short answer is no... not all oils are equal.

oils you put in have to be of an equally high standard, and the manufacturers are continually researching new and improved products.

manufacturers generally recommend an oil change ever 5,000 to 6,000 km. If you do nothing else in the way of preventive maintenance, do these oil changes. They are the single and most effective thing you can do for long engine life. And at about \$20 per oil change, it is also one of the deepest.

Are all oils the same? Should you just put any kind of oil in your car? The short answer is no - not all oils are equal. All oils conform to high standards. The biggest difference is in the additives that each company adds. These additives will enhance the oil's cleaning effects in the engine, will lay down a protective layer on the metal walls to reduce internal friction, and help the oil to resist thermal and viscosity breakdown.

There are also other additives or oil treatments you can buy separately. Such additives can help any oil remove

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Winterize your vehicle for cold climate protection

Your car needs winterizing as much as your house does if you expect it to provide hassle-free transportation during cold winter months.

Some simple precautions and preventive care can make sure your vehicle will carry you to work each blustery winter day.

Winter driving is tougher on your vehicle than summer traveling. In addition to the obvious dangers to its finish from corrosives like salt and sand, your car's engine needs protection from the cold in the form of the correct viscosity motor oil.

Use Lower Viscosity Oil

Most vehicle manufacturers recommend either a 5W-30 or a 10W-30 weight motor oil for engines used in cold climates.

To determine which oil you should use, estimate the lowest winter temperature in your area. Then check your vehicle owner's manual for its lubricant recommendations and choose the viscosity recommended for that temperature.

If you don't change your oil to a lower viscosity (5W-30, 5W-40, 10W-30 or 10W-40) oil before the weather turns to zero, it is very likely your engine may be damaged.

If the oil is too heavy for outside temperatures, moving parts inside the engine will not be lubricated. That could cause the bearings to 'freeze' or other

engine damage.

Change Oil Frequently

Motor oil should be changed twice as frequently as vehicle manufacturers recommend, year-round.

In the winter, short trips stress your vehicle's engine even more, causing condensation to form inside the engine. If the car isn't driven very far, that condensation doesn't evaporate, and can lead to rust and corrosion.

Having fresh oil with good corrosion inhibitors in your engine's crankcase will help prevent that kind of costly problem.

Check Entire Vehicle

The windshield washing solution should be winterized so it will not freeze. Battery cables and terminals should be free of corrosion so they will not "short out." Transmission fluid reservoirs should be filled.

And, the coolant system should be replenished with a mixture of anti-freeze and water.

Unlikely as it seems, antifreeze must be mixed with water to provide low temperature engine protection. If antifreeze is used straight from the container, it will freeze at temperatures near zero. If it is mixed with water at a 50:50 dilution, it will protect the cooling system to temperatures of more than -30 degrees Fahrenheit. Radiator hoses should also be checked. Coolants should be drained and totally replaced every year or two.

Is your battery tough enough?

No matter where you live, Canada is a cold country in winter. When the first severe cold wave arrives you may discover that your faithful old battery no longer has the power to get your car started. A battery's output decreases as temperature drops, so a battery that was doing its job during the warm summer months, may only have half of its output when the thermometer dips below freezing. Meanwhile, your cold engine may need twice the starting power. If your car is hard to start because of a weak

See **Be sure** page 4

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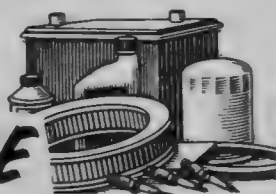
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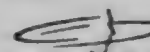


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Be sure to dispose of old batteries in an environmentally safe manner

from page 3

battery, you should consider replacing it before it lets you down. When buying a battery you'll be selecting from among several within the size range that fits your car. In addition to the price, there are other factors which you should consider when buying your battery: cold cranking amps (explained below), reserve capacity, and length and type of warranty.

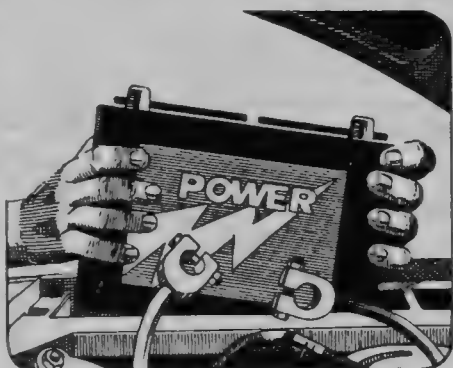
Cold cranking amps refers to the engine starting (cranking) output at -170 Celsius for 30 seconds. A starter may draw 400 amps, so at -170 C it would not take long on a cold Canadian winter morning to drain a battery rated at 300 cold cranking amps. Reserve capacity refers to the length of time the battery will hold up without recharging. This usually is expressed in amperes of output per so many minutes.

When comparing battery specifications, you should compare output and reserve on the same amperage per time basis. Typically, the reserve capacity rating will refer to the amount of time a battery can produce 26 amps at 270 degrees Celsius. (Headlights may draw about 15 amps versus a tail light's 1.5 amps.)

When idling along in stop-and-go traffic, with the heater, defroster, tape deck, and lights turned on,

the electrical system is carrying a heavy load. It's comforting to know there is a strong battery under the hood. That security is well worth the effort of evaluating the best battery for your particular car.

Remember, replacing the battery is no substitute for regularly maintaining your vehicle. If an engine is in borderline condition, needs a valve job or tune-up, even a strong battery may not get the car started.



Where can you get an automotive battery? In addition to retail outlets and department stores, you may also want to go to your local automotive parts wholesaler. Many of them will also accept your old battery and dispose of it properly. Car Care Canada encourages you to dispose of your battery properly. Did you know that one pound of lead from a battery or other source can contaminate 7,000,000 gallons of water, making it unfit for human consumption (the average car battery contains 17 to 23 lbs of lead)?

Canadian automotive battery manufacturers participate in battery recycling programs across the country. Today, millions of units of scrap batteries are returned and disposed of in an environmentally safe fashion.

Canadian automotive battery manufacturers participate in battery recycling programs across the country. Today, millions of units of scrap batteries are returned and disposed of in an environmentally safe fashion.

The right oil protects engine

from page 2

Q Do I need a different oil in summer?

A Your owner's manual will tell you what grade of oil your car needs. Most newer cars use a 5W30 oil year round. Older cars may need a bit more viscosity to keep the protective film on the cylinder walls. You'll probably need to use a 10W30 in the summer, switching to a 5W30 in winter for better starting and cold performance.

Q Should I change the oil filter every time I change the oil?

A Most owner's manuals call for a filter change every second oil change. However, the filter collects all the sludge and dirt from the engine, and your clean oil will be running through a dirty filter after every second oil change. Canadians average 2.8 oil changes per year. The difference between changing the filter every time and every second time is not much more than \$5 a year. Considering the importance of clean oil to your engine, it's awfully cheap insurance to change the filter every time. If nothing else, be sure to follow the instructions in your owner's manual.

Q Can I mix different brands of engine oil?

A Yes, if you must. Because all oils are manufactured to API and SAE standards, you can mix different brands. Because every company has its own additives aimed at enhancing the oil's performance in your engine, you should not make a habit of mixing them - you'll get the best performance by using the same oil. At a pinch, it's better to add a litre of 5W30 to an engine running on 10W30 than to run with low oil, but it's not a good idea to mix grades.

Q How often should I check my oil?

A Get to know your car. Some engines burn more oil than others, and you may have to add a litre of oil once or twice between oil changes. Others don't burn much oil. Check it regularly, whenever you get gas or at least once a week. If you've been driving, give the oil a few minutes to settle back into the sump. Then pull the dipstick out, wipe it off, put it back in all the way, and pull it out again. Read the level of the oil - it should be between the lines marked "full" and "add", or "max" and "min", depending on your car.

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Brakes should get frequent attention

In survey after survey, Canadian drivers rank brake failure as their number one fear of mechanical failure. Yet, only 20% identified brakes as a system that should be checked regularly.

Car Care Canada believes people don't check their brakes because they don't understand them. Discs. Drums. Power assist. ABS. Why does life have to be so complicated? Well, it's not so bad. It all depends on friction – the friction between the brake pad and the lining in a drum or the rotor of a disc brake, and the friction between the tires and the road.

When you press down on the brake pedal, that creates pressure in the master cylinder. This is passed through the brake lines to the brakes. If you have power or power assisted brakes, you don't have to press as hard on the pedal to get the same braking effect. In a drum brake, the brake shoes inside the drum press outward against the brake lining to create the stopping force. It's an enclosed unit that's relatively inexpensive to maintain.

Disc brakes are like bicycle brakes – the calipers pinch the disc, or rotor, to create the stopping force. Because of their better heat rejection, disc brakes offer up to three times more stopping power than drums. That's why most cars have discs on the front, where most of the stopping work is done, and drums on the rear.

Because of the heat generated in braking, pads used

to be made with asbestos. Newer metallic materials have done away with asbestos and its harmful dust.

The fluid in the master cylinder is the medium that translates your pedal pressure into brake pressure. It

See **Once a year** page 30



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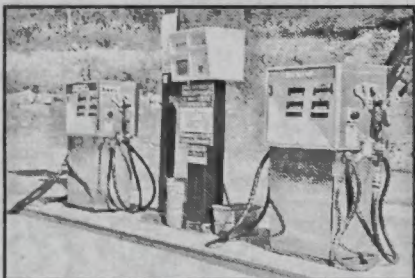


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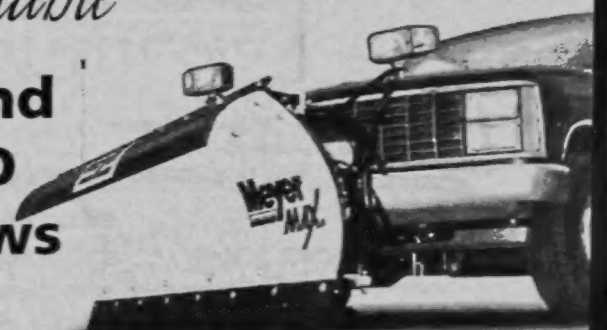


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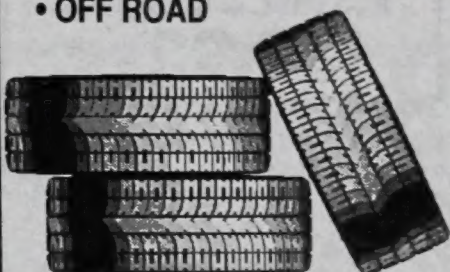
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Once a year, have a full brake inspection, including all lines and hoses, and replace the brake fluid

from page 29

absorbs water very easily, so if you have to add fluid, use a fresh container. And use only the approved brake fluid described in your owner's manual.

How do you know when it's time for a brake job? If your brakes squeal or make a grinding noise, or if you feel a lot of vibration or grabbing, it's time for a check-up. If your brake pedal sinks to the floor, or feels spongy, you may be low on fluid or have a leak in the system.

You should rotate your tires every 10,000 km or so to make them last. When the car is on the hoist and the tires are off, that's an ideal time to do a little preventive maintenance and get your brakes checked. Brakes can last 60,000 km or more – or they can need replacement after 10,000 – 15,000 km. Don't let this simple maintenance item slide, or the next sound you hear could be the crunch of a collision.

If you like paying for brake jobs, here's how to ensure you'll need frequent brake jobs:

1. Race up to stop signs and slam on the brakes.
2. Ride your brakes – use your right foot on the gas and rest your left on the brake pedal while you drive. This will also confuse the drivers behind you, because your brake lights will be on all the time and they'll have no warning when you really want to stop.
3. Stay really close to the car in front so you have to be on your brakes a lot to match every little change in speed.
4. Ignore those warning signs, like chirping brakes or grinding noises. Then a simple pad replacement becomes a full replacement of rotors and linings and costs hundreds more.

Can you economize on brake jobs? Absolutely. Car Care Canada suggests a simple five-point program that could save you hundreds of dollars over the life of your car:

1. Preventive maintenance. Every 10,000 km or so, when you get your tires rotated, have your brakes inspected.
2. Don't neglect your parking brake. Using it regularly will keep the cable from seizing up, and will reduce your need for repairs.
3. Install quality parts and materials. Cheap stuff is a false economy that you'll pay more for in more frequent brake jobs and inferior performance.
4. Driving techniques. Keep a buffer space between you and the car in front, and use it to slow down on the engine so you don't have to use the brakes as often.
5. System flush. Once a year, have a full brake inspection, including all lines and hoses, and replace the brake fluid with fresh fluid.

Be safe, be prepared

Most people think that if they winterize their cars in the fall, before it gets really cold, they'll make it through the winter without problems. And they're mostly right. Others think that if they haven't had a problem yet, they won't have one for the rest of the winter. (Now there's a recipe for trouble.)

Difficulty starting? A cold engine is a stiff engine – it's hard to get the pistons moving, to draw in the fuel, and get started. So it needs more battery power. In cold weather, your battery may produce only 40% of the power it produces in warm weather, so give it a break – use a block heater. A block heater, with a timer to turn it on a couple of hours before you need your car, will make starting much easier. Starting warm can save you money on gas, too.

Take a look at your battery terminals. Is there any white deposit on them? That corrosion can insulate the terminals and prevent the battery giving your car its first boost of power in the morning to get it going. If your battery is getting a little elderly, you may not get a second chance.

It can take up to 40,000 volts to zap a spark into your cylinders. If the ignition wires are worn or cracked, some of that power may not make it, and you could have starting troubles – especially in damp weather.

Another tip – keep your gas tank at least half full. That limits any condensation in the tank, so you're less likely to get gas line freezing. Add a little gas line antifreeze every second time you fill up the gas tank just to be sure.

One of the most important things to watch is your cooling system. There are two things to watch: the concentration of coolant, and the amount. In most parts of Canada, a 50/50 mix of coolant and water keeps the coolant from freezing,

lubricates the water pump, and protects the cooling system from corrosion. In very cold areas, it may be necessary to increase the concentration of coolant – but never more than 70% coolant to 30% water.

But, if you're like most Canadians, you're more concerned about heating than cooling at this time of year. The only heat you get is from the engine, which is why your heater blows cold when you first start your vehicle (before the engine warms up). If your coolant is low, your heater is the first thing to suffer, so keep your antifreeze topped up.

You may also hear a squealing noise (audible over your own teeth chattering) from the heater fan. That could indicate a worn bearing in the fan motor, which will probably seize up on you when you need it most.

If there's a lot of moisture on your windshield, and the defroster can't remove it, you could have a faulty heater core. That's a mini-radiator that transfers engine heat into your passenger compartment. Don't delay, get it fixed – you need to be able to see where you're going, and defrosters have enough trouble keeping windows clear in very cold weather.

If you travel or commute, it's worth taking a little extra time to make sure you have an emergency kit in the trunk. Winter additions to the usual emergency kit include the following:

- good scraper and snow brush
- matches and candles
- can opener
- traction mats
- red cloth (help signal) or "call police" sign
- blanket, hats and mittens
- canned fruit/nuts/survival rations
- tin cup
- small shovel
- jumper cables

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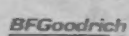
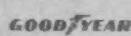
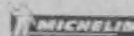
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When wipers won't wipe...

It's bad enough that your windshield washer fluid is freezing on your windshield, now the wipers are only moving the dirt around. What can you do? It starts with choosing the right wiper blades. Hardly anybody thinks about the wiper blades – after all, they won't cost you big bucks at the service outlet.

Just as there is seasonal windshield washer fluid, there are seasonal and high performance wiper blades. Car Care Canada recommends switching blades every six months, in the fall and in the spring.

Winter wiper blades are typically well-protected against ice and snow build-up so that the rubber wiping blade remains flat on the windshield. The rubber used has better cold weather performance, too.

Living in a fine climate is no guarantee against wiper blade deterioration – even sunlight can cause the rubber to age and crack in a relatively short time. That's also why it's important to remember to change your wiper blades in the fall, after the long, hot summer.

Common problems to watch out for:

- cracked or split rubber – usually caused by ultraviolet rays or overly aggressive ice removal;
- pitted, scarred, or discoloured rubber – usually caused by salt removing chemicals;
- torn rubber – where the rubber blade has pulled away from the arm

and is slipping out or slapping against the glass;

- chattering or squeaking sound as the blades work – usually caused by blades warped through infrequent use or exposure to strong sunlight – the blades take on a permanent curvature, instead of conforming to your windshield;

- worn rubber – old blades will exhibit rounded or ragged edges, which will not clean properly;

- windshield streaking – can result from tree sap or road tar on the blades, from cracked, inflexible rubber, or from blades clogged with snow or ice.

So how do you get the best performance from your windshield wipers?

First, clean off the whole windshield – don't try to look through a porthole. Clean the snow off the hood, too – otherwise, it will wind up in your face as soon as you drive away. Before your car has come up to operating temperature, your ability to melt that snow on the windshield is limited, and it will likely smear. Have you ever had the experience of driving away with a clear view of the road, only to have your windshield fog over instantly? That's usually the result of snow being drawn in through the defrost system. This is less likely to happen if you clean out your air intake in the hood.

The lowly wiper blade. Just a few simple steps can keep it invisible, and help you keep your eyes on the road.

Check tires and wheel alignment

Estimate suggest that the average cost of maintaining a vehicle in 2000 may be around \$700, depending on the age of your vehicle. Proper maintenance of tires and wheel alignment is an easy way of reducing the costs of maintaining and operating your vehicle, and making sure you don't have to spend more than you need to on your car.

For example, tires under-inflated by only eight pounds can reduce gas mileage by five percent and cut tire life by 25 percent or more. Cost-conscious motorists, should check tire inflation frequently. Checking tire inflation can easily be done with a personal tire gauge, gauges are available in most automotive stores for less than \$10.00. Owners also should check tires for abnormal wear when vehicles are on lifts for service.

More fuel is consumed as a result of incorrect alignment, which can result in at least a two percent tankful energy loss and reducing tire life. Incorrect alignment accelerates tire wear to an even greater degree. There are two easy ways to detect incorrect alignment of tire balance, indicating the need for cost saving wheel and front-end service:

1. Looseness or excessive play in steering, or difficulty in controlling the vehicle over bumps and around curves are indications of problems which need correcting.

2. Another is vibration or the slightest shimmy.

When vehicles are on the hoist, they should be checked for front end and steering looseness, and shock absorber/strut leakage. A good automotive service technician, with the help of today's sophisticated diagnostic equipment can determine the corrective measures needed for steering and suspension systems; or advise that ball joints, steering, linkage and shock absorbers/struts still are dependable, but wearing to the point where replacement would be advisable in the near future.

If parts replacement is recommended, don't postpone it or take shortcuts in quality of parts, extent of service and cut-rate estimates. Insufficient service to save a few dollars now can mean much higher future repair bills down the road.

Careful attention to steering, suspension and tires are among the major considerations to keep vehicle maintenance cost low.

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Local politicians remember Trudeau as a man who "defined Canada"

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Pierre Elliott Trudeau had "a presence that was undeniable," says Liberal MP John O'Reilly, who vividly remembers the first time he met the late former prime minister.

It was in the 1970s, and Trudeau arrived at a campaign stop in Lindsay by helicopter.

The last time O'Reilly met Trudeau was about two years ago, when Trudeau remarked that if you have good health, it's the other things in life that are more important, but that when you have poor health, it consumes your life.

"I think he knew (his health was declining)," O'Reilly said during a break in the official opening of the two health-

care facilities on Friday.

Of Trudeau's legacy, O'Reilly says "he defined Canada... Whether people liked or disliked him, they respected him."

Tory MPP Chris Hodgson said that as a Canadian who grew up when Trudeau was in power, he knew Trudeau "had a profound influence on our country."

While Hodgson disagreed with some of Trudeau's politics, he respected him as a man. "He stood for something and he followed through on it."

O'Reilly planned on going to Ottawa on the weekend to pay his respects while Trudeau lay in state at the House of Commons, but given space restraints at the church in Montreal where Trudeau is to be buried on Tuesday, O'Reilly didn't think he'd be going to the funeral.

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- Until October 31, CNIB has volunteers canvassing once again for annual campaign in Haliburton County.
- Join the *Walking Club*, sponsored by the Heart and Stroke Foundation. In Minden, people can walk week day mornings from 7:30 to 8:15 at Archie Stouffer Elementary School. For more info. call Morris Duff at 286-6079. In Haliburton, the week day morning walks are from 7:15 to 8:15 at the high school. For more info. call Al Gostock at 457-3362 or Jacqueline and Kelly Metcalf at 457-3756. "Be wise - exercise."
- Highland Wood Carvers meet every Monday at the Lochlin Community Centre, from 1 - 4 p.m. or 7 - 10 p.m. New members welcome. For more information please call 457-1966 or 286-2029.
- Oct. 3: Norma Evans, "Gardening with Rocks, Stones and Pebbles", Minden Community Centre, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 4: *Wheels to Meals*, 12 noon, sponsored by Home Support, at Kei's, Haliburton. Info. call 457-2941.
- Oct. 4: Dorset Seniors are having an all-you-can-eat *Spaghetti Dinner and Auction Sale* starting at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- Oct. 5: L.I.F.T. Ladies in Fellowship Together. Theme: "Home is where the heart is". Speaker: Sue Robinson. Special feature: Wendy Snelgrove, Interior Designer. Music: "2's Company 3's a Crowd". West Guilford Community Centre, 7:30 - 9:30. Info: Lyn, 457-3155
- Oct. 7: Leave the cooking to us! Monmouth Agricultural Society annual *Home-cooked Turkey Supper*, with all the trimmings, Lloyd Watson Community Centre, Wilberforce. Awards presentations 4:30, supper served 5:00. Adults \$8.50, children under 12, \$5, preschoolers free, family pass \$25. Proceeds support the Monmouth 2001 Fair. Info. call 448-2534.
- Oct. 7: *Thanksgiving Dinner*, St. Peter's Anglican Church, Maple Lake. Settings, 5, 6 & 7 p.m. Adults \$10, children under 12, \$5, preschoolers free. For tickets call 754-4428.
- Oct. 7: Galway Firefighters Association *Annual Fall Turkey Shoot*, starts at 10 a.m. Shoots for turkey, ham or beef. 2nd prizes. Refreshment booth. Galway Rd., S. of Kinmount.
- Oct. 7: Legion Ladies Auxiliary *Flea Market*, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, phone 457-1467. Proceeds to community projects.
- Oct. 10: *Wheels to Meals*, 12 noon, sponsored by Home Support, at Gooderham Community Centre. Info. call 457-2941.
- Oct. 11: *Wheels to Meals*, 12 noon, sponsored by Home Support, at Rip's in West Guilford. Info. call 457-2941.
- Oct. 11: Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists - join us for a presentation on "Designing the African section, Toronto Zoo" by Verne Brinsmead. Slides, artifacts and tales from a research trip to the African savannah. Haliburton Museum at 7:30.
- Oct. 14: *Harvest Feast Buffet*, 4:30 to 7 p.m., Kinmount Legion Hall. Sponsored by Kinmount United Church Ladies. Adults \$10, children \$4 (10 yrs. & under), preschoolers free.
- Oct. 14: Help wanted: Those interested in an *Laxton Digby Longford Homecoming* in 2001, bring your ideas to our meeting on Sat., Oct. 14 at 10 a.m., LDL Coucil Chambers. For more info. call 454-3418.
- Oct. 15: Wilberforce United Church celebrates its *111th Anniversary* with special musical presentations by The Gentlemen of Song. Worship service at 11:30 a.m. Pot luck luncheon to follow. Everyone welcome.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editorial@haliburtonecho.on.ca, or brought in to the office. **NOTE:** This calendar is **NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LISTING OF ALL EVENTS** taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in The Echo for more information on events and in the Highlands.

CHURCH SERVICES